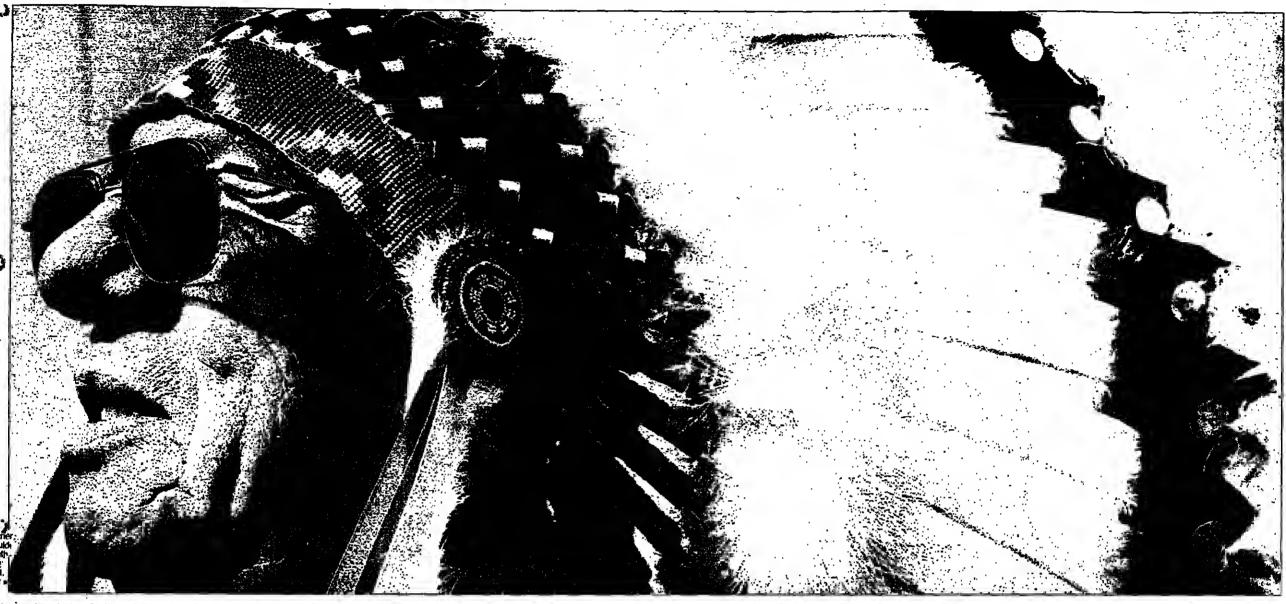


THE INDEPENDENT

Take my bones from London and bury them at Wounded Knee



Cricohn Black Feather, a great grandson of Long Wolf, bedecked in an eagle feather headdress, stands watch in Brompton cemetery, west London, as the American Indian's remains are exhumed

Photograph: Nicola Kurtz

an the An American Indian's dying wish hish that his body be returned to his tribal homeland is being granted more than a century later. Yesterday a colourful band of his relatives from several generations of the Oglala Sioux nation gathered in Brompton Cemetery, west London, to

collect his remains and take them home so his spirit can finally rest. Who was Long Wolf, asks Clare Gamer, and why was he buried in

to London and never came home is legendary among members of the Oglala Sioux nation. Now, more than a century later, this modern folk stury has found a happy end-

Long Wolf was among the warriors who viped out General Custer's 7th Cavairy at the battle of Little Big Hurn in 1876. Retributinn from the US forces was swift and the Sioux suffered a shattering defeat. Rather than be rounded up with other survivors, Long Wolf decided to enlist in Colonel "Buffalo Bill" Cody's Wild West

The show, which re-enacted Indian

and Europe, and the audience at the Earls Court Arena included Queen Victoria and the Prince of Wales.

But Long Wolf, then 59, was ailing and, realising his death was imminent, he drew a picture of a wolf and asked for it to be carved on his gravestone. Now, 105 years later, that wolf image still survives. In fact, it turned out to be the vital clue when Elizaboth Knight, a housewife from Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, set out six years ago to trace his grave.

When Mrs Knight picked up a dogeared book in a local antiques market and read a lament on Long Wolf's tragic life fights, stage coach robberies and huffalo and burial, she was so touched that she felt

The tragle tale of how Loog Wolf went hunts, was a runaway success across the US she "just had to do something". Having located his grave, neglected in a lone corner of the crowded cemetery, she set about tracing his descendants. With the help of George Georgeson, the founder of Group, Twin Light Trail, she traced Long Wolf's great-grandchildren and discovered that among his own people he was far from

In 1993, John Black Feather, 60, a greatgrandson of Long Wolf, responded to an advertisement placed by Mrs Knight io a South Dakota newspaper. He was anxious to assist - for "Medicine Men and Holy Men say that the spirit doesn't rest until the body is brought home."

Yesterday, bedecked in an eagle feather held-dress and beaded slippers, he stood io Brompton Cemetery, west London. and spoke of his happiness. "I've been hearing about Long Wolf since I was a little boy. Britain's own American Indian Support It's sort of like a fairytale story. He's someone I never knew, but my mum talked about and here I am 60 years later."

> His mother, Jessie Black Feather, 87, is Long Wolf's most senior surviving descendent. She has always wanted to find her grandfather, hut had never known where to begin. Her mother, Lizzie Long Wolf, was 12-years-old when Long Wolf was performing in London. She heard him say, as he lay dying of pneumonia, how much he yearned to go home. And now he is.

Generations of relatives, as well as a Medicioe Man named Wilmer Mesteth, have flown to Britain to oversee the exhumation of their ancestral chief, as well as those of his 17-month-old daughter, Star Ghost Dog, who was buried with him.

The remains will he taken back home to the Black Hills of Dakota, where the will be wrapped in huffalo hide and laid to rest in his ancestral hurial ground, on the open plains of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, Wounded Knee.

Yesterday they gathered near his grave-side to sing songs: Takala kun miye ca/ohitiye waun kun/ wana henamala yelo" ("My people, take courage/ a warrior I have been/ Now I am no more").

2 FREE MAGAZINES

22/PROMOTION Start collecting now

TODAY'S NEWS

Next: face transplants

A breakthrough in transplant surgery was heralded after an extraordinary operation in Melhourne. Australia. Two teams of surgeons spent 25 hours replacing the face and scalp of a woman who had been caught in a milking machine. The surgeon, a world leader in the field, said it was a dry-run for transplanting whole human faces. Page 3

Tonypandy dies at 88

The 'voice of Westminster' fell silent last night with the death from cancer of Lord Tonypandy, the former Commons Speaker George Thomas. He stayed active to the end, campaigning in last week's Welsh 'no' campaign. Obliquaries, page 19

Labour will outlaw 'vote buying' in Britain

The Government has decided to curb the millions which political parties can spend on elections, Anthony Bevins, Political Editor reveals. Will this cut back the acres of advertising and the long campaigns voters have to suffer? Or is it a ruthless attack by Labour on a Conservative Party already on its knees?

Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, is preparing a dramatic change in the rules governing British elections, including the compulsory registration of parties. The changes could mean more restrained campaigns here, and would also ensure that British voters never endure the huge propaganda efforts pumped out by, for instance, US political parties and candidates.

In the weeks running up to the May election, the Conservatives spent £20m, Labour went through £13m and the Liberal Democrats spent £3m on their national publicity drives. A Labour spokesman said yesterday: "This thing just spirals and spirals: the parties spend and spend and spend again. It is madness."

It is thought that if a ceiling had been imposed on national election budgets in May, it would have been based on a limit of between £5m and £10m, ensuring that Labour and the Tories faced each other on a level playing field.

There is also a strong suspicion at Westminster that Tony Blair is keen to end the charge that New Labour is dancing to the unions' tune because of its reliance on the uniuns' elections contributions. So there is party advantage in this too. Because Labour has less access to husiness finance

than the Conservatives, it has a vested interest in introducing curbs on spending.

The introduction of proportional representation for the European Parliamentary elections in 1999 is being used for the revision of electoral rules, including a ban on candidates standing on misleading labels - like "Literal Democrat" - as well as the cap on election spending sprees.

Mr Straw believes that current restraint on election spending is ont of date, because it came into force at a time when most cash was invested in local, consultuency-based efforts. That is why there are fixed limits on individual candidates'

"We did not have the mass media, even the poster signs that we now have," Mr Straw had told the Commons Home Affairs Select Committee. "There was less use made of the media that existed. There is a need to modernise our approach to election spending."

The Government is already committed to enacting legislation obliging parties to declare the source of all donations above a minimum figure of about £5,000, along with a ban on foreign funding.

But in a memorandum to the select committee, Mr Straw now says: "If a regional list system is to be introduced for elections to the European Parliament, there will need to be new rules governing electoral expenditure, since the emphasis will he much more on the promotion of parties rather than individual candidates.

"Any examination of the rules governing election expenses could also cover the possibility of imposing limits on expenditure at the national level by political par-

Lord Holme, the Liberal Democrats' election campaign manager, told The Independent at his party's conference in Eastbourne yesterday: "We shouldn't say that everyone has to be as poor as us. But the amounts that were spent this year come

as close as you can get to huying votes." The big expense in national propaganda campaigns is for posters put up on advertising hoardings across the country, with additional money going on newspaper advertising, and seductive election broadcasts.

Mr Straw also says in his memorandum that proportional representation for the European parliamentary elections, the Scottish Parliament and the Welsh Assembly. will require the registration of political parties, because the system to be used requires parties to offer electors lists of approved candidates. He plans to use the registration process to filter out spurious parties designed to deceive and mislead the voters.

All parties - and many voters - have suffered from the activities of such candidates. In the 1994 European elections, Adrian Saunders, now Liberal Democrat for Torhay, was defeated by 700 votes after a candidate put himself forward as a Literal Democrat in Devon & Plymouth East. A legal challenge by the Liberal Democrats was rejected.

In Hackney South and Shoreditch, where Brian Sedgemore was defending a solid Labour majority, a New Labour candidate received 2,436 votes - an astonishing 7.2 per cent of votes cast - and many people complained after voting for him that they had been deceived.



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2/BRIEFING



5/EDUCATION

Excluding children from school is the equivalent of state-sanctioned truancy, says the Children's Society; a school where a pupil committed suicide after a bullying episode has heeo censured by inspectors.

6.7/EUROPE

France has been rocked by claims that the final rounds of Intervilles, the hugely popular televisinn contest that gave birth to Jeux sans Frontières, bas been rigged on several occasions. Plus reports from Poland and Serbia.

9/EATING

Restaurants are going on the offensive over what they see as excessive regulation. They are concerned that if the food police get their way, eating out will be a dull and uniform affair.

10/CRIME

Money launderers and drug dealers are using a concrete platform off the North Sea coast, pretending it is a country and issuing fake passports.

12/DESPATCHES

Boris Yeltsin horrified human rights campaigners by giving surprise backing to a controversial law that curtails religious freedom in Russia.

14/LIB DEM CONFERENCE

Paddy Ashdown defended his policy of "constructive oppositioo".

15/POLITICS

John Major will go on to the Tory party conference platform to back William Hague as the bookmakers open odds oo the party leadership.

16/HEALTH

Confessions of a female snorer. How can you have a sex life when you spend the night snorting like a pig?

17/FEATURES

Chris Patten is a man without a job, the Tories are a party in pain. Is there a connection?

18/VISUAL ARTS

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Canada (\$)

Name any of the world's tragedies of the past 20 years and as likely as. not, Don McCullin hroke the news. But what happens wheo you take the images off the front page and put them in a gallery?

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PEOPLE



Ruth Picardie, a contributor and former staff member at The Independent died yesterday at Trinity Hospice in south London. She was 33 and had been diagnosed as suffering from stage three breast cancer in October last year.

Ruth joined the features department in 1993 and worked for the paper until this

summer. As well as her pieces on style, culture and family life, she wrote about the indignities of IVF treatment and, latterly, in "Before I say Goodbye," a column for the Observer, about her battle with cancer. She leaves a husband and two-year-old twins.

Ruth on Thatcher's handbag, page 17 Obituary, page 19

Edwina Currie announces end of marriage

Edwina Currie, the flamboyant politician-turnedoovelist, has at last proved the gosslps right by anoouocing the end of her marriage to husinessman husband Ray after 25 years. The former Tory MP, aged 50, told journalists yesterday that, after months of discussion, she and the father of her two children would be going their separate ways.

"It is a very sad day," she said in a statement issued by her solicitors, but insisted that there were no other parties involved and that the split was amicable. She also confirmed that daughters Debble, 22, and Susie, 20, had been kept fully up to date, saying: "We have talked it through during the summer, so they know all about this."

The break-up comes after years of speculation by commentators. She was a high-profile, attentionseeking extrovers who thrived on the constant medis attention: He was a quiet accountant, keen to avoid the limelight. Forever in her shadow, he was often portrayed as the standard bearer for downtrodden husbands.Mr Currie, aged 52, refused to respond to the taunts but it was clear that they bothered him. Earlier this year he said: "Accountancy is not a public profession, whereas politicians need to be ooticed and writers have to sell books. I have plenty of confidence and self-esteem and don't regard myself as boring. I'm just quieter and less pho-

Asprilla cash 'was used to buy cocaine'

Football star Faustino Asprilla gave up to £1.000 in cash to a suspected drug dealer who spent the money on cocaine, a court beard vesterday.

> .. The Newcastle United striker stepped into the witness box at Southwark Crown Court to insist that he did not know Leonel Sarmiento-Mattoa was a cocaine addict or that he intended to spend the money on drugs. He said he thought he was helping his fellow Colombian out with accommodatioo problems after he was evicted from his home.

The court heard, that Sarmiento-Matton befriended Asprilla (pictured) after the footballer's arrival in Britain in February, 1996 on a transfer to Newcastle from Italian side Parma.



Cleaner Sarmiento-Mattoa. 31, from oorth London, told the court he would help the Spanishspeaking star with translations and would occasionally be given small

sums of between £50 and £100 as

thanks and to pay for his travel expenses. He told the jury that in early February this year he visited Asprilla with his wife Marcella and told him of his accommodation difficulties and the striker gave him the cash in £20 notes.

Two weeks later, on 12 February, Sarmiento-Mattoa was stopped by police while driving in Londoo and 41.4g of cocaine was found in a briefcase on the back seat of his car.

Sarmiento-Mattoa insisted that the drugs were not for Asprilla, but were for his own personal use. He said he used the lactose as a 'pick-you-up' wheo . he could not get hold of cocaine.

He denies a charge of possessing the drug with intent to supply. The case continues

UPDATE

Housing boom patchy say agents

House prices may be rising, but sellers are still fighting shy of the market, according to a survey by the National Association of Estate Agents published today. The association attempts to put an optimistic gloss on its findings, highlighting the fact that increasing numbers of properties are coming on the market. The present imbalance of demand and supply is beginning to level," it says.

History n

But the figures, based on the month of August, tell a more sobering story: too many buyers are chasing too few properties, and the boom is largely confined to London. Seventy-two per cent of estate agents reported that demand was outstripping supply in their areas, and 44 per cent said the level of new instructions by vendors was pour.

The survey confirms that house prices are on the up. Eighty per cent of agents said prices had increased locally compared to August last year, by an average of 9.8 per cent. Fifty-eight per cent said husiness was better than 12 months ago. But Hugh Dunsmore-Hardy, president of the association, says that the market is displaying "a Jekyll and Hyde char-

"Some areas of the country are performing much better than others, and for some, the feel-good factor is merely 'feeling-better'." he says. - Kathy Marks

Air conditioning hazards highlighted

Air conditioning can cause asthma attacks, chest tightness and a runny oose in office workers, according to new research.

The study of 770 office staff found people working in air-conditioned offices are almost two-and-a-half times more likely to suffer from respiratory infections than those in naturally ventilated buildings.

Dr Dan Teculescu told the European Respiratory Society's annual congress in Berlin that findings from his research support reports of sick building syndrome in the UK, Italy and Scandinavia.

Upper respiratory tract infections caused by air conditioning included the common cold, sore throat and ton-These cooditions accounted for 17

per cent of days off work among staff working in air-conditioned offices. compared with 9 per cent in other huildings.

In the study, the French doctor examined the levels of air temperature, humidity, airborne, bacteria and fungi in both air-conditioned and naturally-ventilated huildings. He found that seven out of eight symptoms were associated with exposure to air conditioning at work.

Dr Teculescu said: "Upper respiratory tract infections such as the common cold are one of the main reasons for absence from work. Air conditioning circulates the air and can carry airhorne bacteria and



LAW

More freedom to prosecute urged

Many of the barriers to ordinary people bringing private prosecutions should be swept away, the Government's law reform body says in a report

At present, a range of private prosecutions can only be brought with the consent of the Director of Public Prosecutions or the Attnmey General. But the Law Commission says in its report that consent provisions are only justified in cases iovolving national security, international relations, freedom of expression or where it is "particularly likely, given the availability of both criminal and civil proceedings in respect of the same conduct, that the public interest will not require a prosecu-

The current provisions operate as an "impediment to the right to bring a private prosecution, a right widely regarded as fundamental," the commission says. - Patricia Wynn Davies

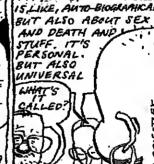
by Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman

7.30 FOR 8



COURSE IT IS , MAC. I'VE GOT SOME WING IN MYSELF, ACCUALLY. AT THE END OF THE DAY, ARTISTS ARE CONCERNED WITH THE SAME THINGS THEY'VE ALWAYS BEEN. THE MEDIA MAY PRESENT IT AS A JOKE BUT

THIS IS, YOU KNOW, SERIOUS STUFF





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3/LEADING STORIE

History made as surgeons transplant a woman's face

One of the world's . leading plastic surgeons has successfully reattached a woman's face after it was torn from her head in a horrific accident. Prof Wayne Morrison said he considered the operation a dry run for face transplants.

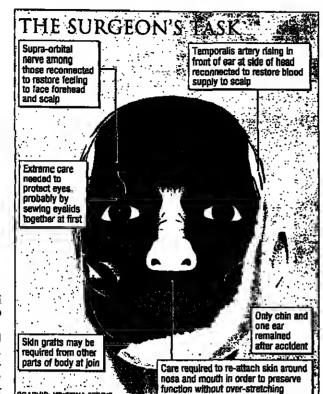
Jeremy Laurance, Health Editor, thinks the operation could open a new era in transplant surgery.

Two teams of surgeons speot 25. hours replacing the face, scalp and one ear of the woman.

Professor Morrison, who led the surgery at the renowned St Vincent's Hospital in Melbourne, Australia, said that the day might come when major trauma victims teft hospital with somcooe else's face. "This is a dry run for actually transplanting faces. This is what we could only dream we could do," he said.

The 28-year-old woman's appalling injuries, described by Mr Morrison as the worst he had seen, were sustained after the skin of her face and scalp were ripped off like a glove after her hair hecame caught in a milking machine on a dairy farm in the state of Victoria, leaving only her chin and one ear intact.

She was found by a friend, who would have been coo-



anatomical dissection, Mr Morrison said. Her face and scalp were packed in ice and taken with her to the hospital which has pioneered the use of microsurgery. There, surgeons using microscopes reattached hlood vessels and nerves using tiny stitches finer than a human

The surgeons worked from 10pm last Tuesday, hours after the accideot happeoed, uotil I tom the following day. Yesterday, six days after the accident, the woman was still in intensive care under heavy sedation, but Mr Morrison said he

several years ago in China. Describing the case to reporters, Mr Morrison compared it to the movie Face/Off now playing in Australia and due to open in Britain. Face/Off is a violent action thriller starring John Travolta and Nicholas Cage as enemies whose faces are

the face would survive. He said

he knew of only one compara-

hle operation performed before.

swapped by surgeons. However, Mr Morrisoo admitted that there were still formidable problems of rejection to be overcome. The skin is the most immunologically resistant fronted by a sight like an was "fairly confident" that all organ in the body - it provokes

a more violent response than a heart or kidney when transplanted into another body.

Although immunosuppressant drugs could be given to preveot rejectioo, their tong-term effects are thought too risky except in cases such as heart and kidney transplants where death is likely without a transplant.

Stewart Watson, consultant plastic surgeoo at Withington Hospital, Manchester, and an expert on the care of accident victims, has treated war wounded in Bosnia and earthquake survivors in Armenia and Iran. He said the injuries suffered by the woman were unique. "The scalp is vulnerable to "de-gloving" where the skin comes off but I have never heard of a case like this involving the face as well."

Once the graft had taken and the blood supply had been reestablished the biggest problem faciog the surgeons would be to restore feeling to the face and to ensure the proper functioning of the eyelids and mouth. They will need to take extreme care to protect the eyes, probably by sewing the eyelids together initially. Getting good eyelid function will be one of the major challenges as well as dealing with the junction of the skin at the cose and mouth so that it is not overstretched, he

Surgeoos at St Vincent's hospital said the woman may be able to go home within two weeks. Mr Morrison said she would have scars around her evelids and chin but would be recognisably the same person. "She will have animation of her face and the essential characteristics will be there." he said.

Josie attends identity parade Josie Russell, the

schoolgirl who survived the Kent murder of her mother and sister which shocked the country last summer, has recovered enough to attend an ID parade. Police believe they may be on the verge of a breakthrough says Kate Watson-Smyth.

Kent Police would not reveal the results of the identity parade but a spokesman said vesterday that they were now consulting with the Crown Prosecution Service.

Josie was persuaded to attend the parade at Rainham police station at the weekend by police investigating the murder of her mother Lin and six-vearold sister, Megan, They were murdered as they walked home from school in Chillenden, Kent, 14 months ago. During the attack in a narrow country lane Josic, 10, suffered appalling head injuries after being beaten with a hammer.

A Kent Police spokesman said yesterday: "We can confirm that an identity parade did take place. We are now consulting with the Crown Prosecution Service following that identity parade,"

It is understood Josic was accompanied by her father, Dr Shaun Russell, as she was driven from her home in North Wales to Rainham. Dr Russell. a former university lecturer, comforted his daughter as she watched the parade, which included the possible killer, from behind a ooe-way glass screen.

One of the nine men in the parade had previously been questioned by police about the attack before being released.

KEY TO TOMORROW'S COSMETIC SURGERY

Today's science fiction is tomorrow's costransplants could become a reality raises the prospect of the ageing rich raiding the cadavers of beautiful 20-year-old

accident victims for a youthful new look. developed 50 years ago by Sir Harold Gillies, the father of plastic surgery, for treating badly hurnt Secood World War new methods being developed for today's accident victims may find a place in the the rejection problem without drugs." heauty salons of the 21st century.

Could Cindy Jackson, 42, who uo-£60,000 have saved herself the trouble "infect" it, ensuring that it is accepted by be left with the same individual." with a single face transplant?

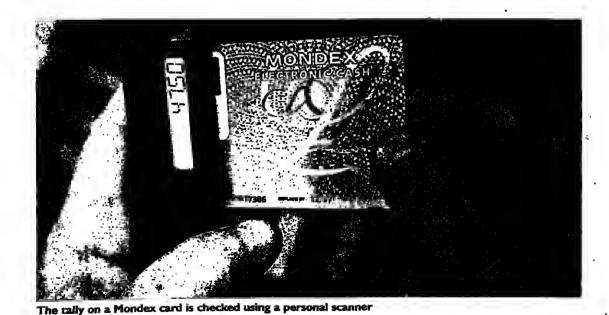
Although face transplants are technimetic surgery. The suggestion that face cally possible, their introduction is held up by problems of rejection. Powerful immuoosuppressant drugs are not justified for con-life-threatening cooditions and eveo disciples of self-improvement such Just as the extraordinary techniques as Ms Jacksoo would draw the line at taking potentially toxic doses.

James Frame, consultant plastic surgeon at St Andrew's hospital, Essex, who better." bomber pilots have metamorphosed into has been doing research in the area for nips and tucks for the pampered rich, so four years, said: "What the transplant world is waiting for is a way of overcoming

The best caodidate is "transfection" - a method of transferring genes to the the recipient of the transplant.

Mr Frame said the first candidates for a face transplant, were it to become possible, would be cancer patients. "If someooe has surgery for cancer of the mouth the best we can do for them is lift a section of skin from their back and transfer it to their face. The results are not very good. I feel as a cosmetic surgeon we ought to be able to offer them something

But creating a new look for the vaio would be more difficult than replacing skin and uoderlying tissue with someone else's face. Mr Frame said: "It cao't be done. The skeletoo would still be there. Because of that basic background, whatderwent 27 operations at a cost of new tissue, using a virus as a carrier to ever you put over the top you would still



Virtual cash, straight to your mobile phone

'E-cash', which stores money as digits on smart cards, could soon make credit and debit cards ook outdated. It is aiready used in Swindon, and Charles Arthur, Science Editor, says it could soon come to a mobile phone near you.

t visiting the cash machine is alking, the queues, and the risk nat it may have run out of cash then help is on the way. Getcould soon require nothing hre than dialliog a few digits 9 L'money will be sent direct-

company, has teamed up with while those on the seller's card oet admitted that "any foral to develop a system that will let you withdraw cash, in the form of encrypted strings of digits, directly from your hank accomputer chip slotted into the back of a mobile phone. That can then be used with a suitable card reader to pay for items costing from 1p upwards.

Any of Cellnet's 1.4 million customers with a digital GSM ecoming too much effort - the phone could use the system, which could also be used to deposit cash. The greatest bencfit would he for getting money ng your haods on some mon- for transactions of £5 or less, which are too expensive to carry out with credit or dehit cards. your muhile phone - where When a transaction takes place, a complex calculation takes place and the digits oo the huy-

the "smart card" payments are incremented. The digits company Mondex Internation- correspond to money, at any point they can be transferred to the owner's bank account for suitable credit.

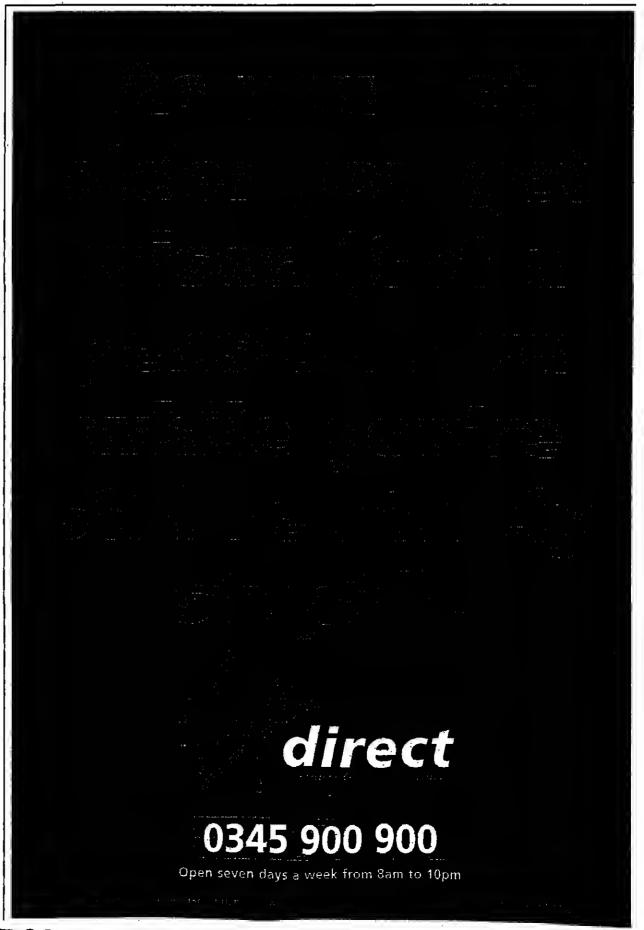
The scheme could be in opcouot, and store it on a eration within a couple of years. The technological obstacles have largely been overcome particularly relating to security of data transfer - because digital mobile phooes can't be cloned. The principal problem is to ensure that the phone's chip is credited when the bank account is dehitted. "We want to take the maximum care, because this is people's money," said a Cellnet spokesman, Celloet already offers Barclays customers remote access to their account details, hut without money transfer.

Delinet, the mobile phone er's card are de-incremented, likely to be in hot pursuit. Cell- which contain electronic cash.

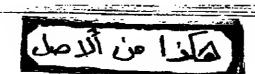
ward-looking mobile phone company would examine this

Today's anoouocement extends Mondex's pilot project which started in July 1995 in Swindon. There, "smart cards" - credit cards with an embedded microprocessor - were introduced for use by the general public. Though the initial reactioo was tukewarm, other Mondex projects have followed in the UK and other countries. By the end of this year Mondex expects to have produced more than a million reloadable "ecash" cards.

Earlier this year the credit card company Mastercard bought 51 per cent of Mondex, and both Mastercardrand its competitur Visa have begun is-Other phone companies are suing "stored value" credit cards



Josie Russell: Watched the identity parade through a one-way screen Fiona Hansen





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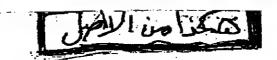
Service :

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Exclusions are state-sanctioned truancy, says charity



A'new project is trying to help disruptive children as young as four avoid exclusion from school. But the charity running the project believes that the Government is not doing enough to fight the rising tide of exclusions. Judith Judd, Education Editor, reports.

The Childreo's Society, the children's charity, is piloting a scheme which sends experts ioto schools to work with primary children whn are at risk nf exclusioo.

Teachers and parents can refer children for support. Childreo themselves cao also olunteer to be helped.

The two-year project began a year ago. So far, says the society, feedback from both parents and children is encouraging. One four-year-old who had been excluded from another school has been able to remain in his current primary school, thanks to the project workers' efforts.

The rate of exclusions is rising more quickly in primary than in secondary schools. There was a 30 per ceot increase in exclusions from primary schools in 1,872 during the

lası year. Research suggests that notimary school children who are permaneotly excluded from schools lose an average nf three-quarters of a year's

schooling. Exclusions of children uf all ages have risco by 450 per cent over the last five years and topped 13,500 two years ago.

The Childreo's Society is seoding two project workers into two London schools four mornings a week to give nneto-one help to children at risk of exclusion, and to work with groups oo issues such as friendship and bullying.

Pippa Bremner, the project teader, said that most childreo had been referred in them by teachers but they were delighted by the number of parents who had come forward. She added: "A couple of childreo have also come to us. but they teed to be mure concerned with the immediate situarion; they are having a lot of difficulty in the playground or

nobody is talking to them." The project also helps withdrawn children who are not disruptive but who are not fully iocluded in the life of the

In addition, it runs pareots' groups and advises on the trainiog of classroom assistants, The idea is to get the while

school thinking about how exclusions can be reduced.

Ms Bremner said; "These schools show that, with outside support and the commitment of schools, parents, pupils, children whn might utherwise be excluded can be given a real chance. If you're excluded at the age of five, what hope does that give a child for the rest of its life? The national figures for black children, particularly those from Afro-Caribbean

backgrounds, are inexcusable." Afro-Caribhean pupils are four times more likely to be excluded from school than other

lan Sparks, the society's chief executive, said that exclusions amounted to "statesanctioned truancy. While the Government has annunced some welcome plans in tackle truancy, we want to see more work on preveoting exclusions.

"The statistics are a shambles. No nne knows how many children are excluded temporarily and there's eveo doubt about the figures on permanent exclusions.

For childreo in difficulties, he said, it was a frighteningly short route from primary school to prison. A recent Audit Commission report found that 78 per ceot of permanently excluded pupils and 31 per cent of those temporarily excluded committed crimes.

'She showed him how to deal with his anger - they made toys which he could smash'

When Adrian Thompson was eight, his mother. Shirley, received a letter from his school saying that he was in danger of being excluded unless his behaviour improved.

Now Adrian is ten aod, his mother says, he is still in school thanks to the help he has nurse working night shifts so received from the Children's that she was not always avail-Society's Shine project (Schools Have Inclusive Education).

She says: "He was on the verge of being excluded for difficult behaviour. He was very hyperactive and he kept throwing things across the classroom. He was also being bullied and, every time something went wrong, he felt that he was

"But he didn't know how to express himself, When I asked. he said he was fine."

His behaviour problems meant that he was also struggling with his work.

Part of the trouble, Mrs Thompson says, is that she is a able when Adrian came home from school.

Jill, the project worker, persuaded Adrian to talk, and a pattern was worked out between Mrs Thompson, Jill and his tutor so that one of them was always available to talk.

Adrian, who attends Trinity St Mary's primary school in

eojoyed his one-to-one sessioos with Jill each week. "He felt someone was interested in him and that gave him confidence," his mother said. "She showed him how to deal with his anger. They made toys

which he could smash.

"I was frightened about what would happen when he went back into class but there has been no problem. He has learnt to read and he now likes

"I don't know what we would bave done without the help. There needs to be a system so that parents and teachers get together and communicate properly."

University scholarships take pain out of tuition fees

As sixth formers begin preparing university applications for next year, one Institution is launching £1,000 scholarships to tempt prospective candidates. Since would-be students are now facing the costly prospect of tuition fees and the abolition of grants, the offer could mark the start of a trend, writes Lucy Ward, Education Correspondent

Students applying to the University of Wales, Bangor, have the chance to win the equivalent of a year's tuition fee under a new scholarship scheme. The university knunched the

offer, which it plans to extend next year, as it emerged that other institutions are also considering similar moves amid fears that tuition charges being introduced next September could deter potential students. Under the Bangor scheme,

eight departments from English to engineering will each offer a £1,000 scholarship, to be awarded by competitioo based on an essay, project or assign-

The sum, payable in three instalments during the undergraduates' first year, exactly covers the maximum amount students will be expected to pay annually for tuition under plans announced by the Government

Charges will be means tested according to parental income, and about one-third of students will be liable for the full amount, while a further third pay nothing and the rest are charged on a sliding scale.

Baogor's academic registrar David Roberts said that, at a time when students were increasingly worried about their finances, the scholarships were expected to be "extremely attractive" to applicaots.

The offer also represents a useful marketing tactic at a time when universities fear a rush for the last free higher education places this year and initial wariness over fees could mean few-

er applications for next Sep-

The applications process for 1998 entry has already begun, but the Government has not yet spelt out the detail of its fees proposals.

At a conference of the Com-

mittee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals last week, the higher education minister Baroness Blackstone promised an anoouncement within a fortnight, but universities fear some questions could remain unanswered until later in the autumn, when many applications will have already been made.

Dr Geoffrey Copland, viccchancellor of the University of Westminster and chair of the 26-strong Coalitioo of Modern Universities, an organisation representing many of the former polytechnics, said many institutioos were considering offering scholarships and bursaries but could not act without more detail oo fees.

He said: "There is a real concern among CMU and I think widely that there may be students who will be deterred from taking up places."

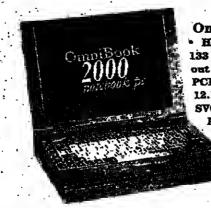


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THE DAILY POEM

Speak to Me

I'm going to stop. I'm going to start again. I'm going to make strategic little piles of things like cigarenes and sugar-enbes, and bunums' eggs, and cubes of caule-cake, and range them, along your route.

until you notice them: and then I'm going to balance slightly larger things. like fish, or frait, or talips, on my head, whispering as I walk: Speak to mc, whispering Speak to me please

This week's poems come from Beyond Bedlam (Anvil Press, £7.95). An anthology of work "written out of mental distress", it has been edited by Ken Smith and Matthew Sweecey to mark the 750th anniversary of the Bethlem Royal and Maudsley hospitals; proceeds from the volume go to three mental health charities. Selima Hill's poem first appeared in A Little Book of Meat (Bloodaxe).

Poland's revolutionaries celebrate a comeback

Solidarity is set to gain power again after a surprisingly clear victory over the reformed Communists. The price may be a bigger dose of free market medicine than they would like. Imre Karacs reports.

Vowing to complete the revolution of 1989, leaders of the disparate strands of Solidarity celebrated their comeback to the centre-stage of Polish politics yesterday and began the arduous task of putting together the next government.

After Solidarity's stunning victory in Sunday's general elec-

of power. According to projections, the Solidarity Election Action block, with about 34 per cent of the votes, will be the biggest party in the new sejm (parliament). Prime Minister Włodzimierz Cimoszewicz's former Communists scored a creditable 27 per cent, but their coalition partners, the Peasants' Party, won only about 7 per cent of the votes. If the projections are correct, the left cannot cobble together a majority.

On the right, matters have been simplified by the failure of fringe parties to gain a footbold. Freedom Union, the liberal wing of Solidarity of old, was forecast to win 14 per cent of the ed into seats, Solidarity will be able to form a government with tions, the right is on the verge the liberals of Freedom Union.

Lech Walesa, who led Solidarity against the Communist regime in 1989, offered his services yesterday as an honest broker. I would like to invite the victorious leaders for Wednesday or Thursday at the latest." he announced yesterday. "We have to make the best use of this victory and push reforms forward." The former president played virtually no part in the election campaign, but his intervention suggests that be would like a taste of victory.

Freedom Union's price for a deal is a radical reform programme drawn up by their leader, Leszek Balcerowicz. Whether Solidarity's trade unionists can digest all the free-market medicine prescribed by Mr



Balcerowicz is the question upon Lech Walesa (right) and Solidarity chairman Marian Krzaklewski Photograph: Czarek Sokolowski which the future of Poland hangs. welcoming the first exit polls on Sunday

Hard men and fascists triumph in Serbian vote

Slobodan Milosevic, the great survivor of Serbian politics, again proved yesterday that "defeat" is not a phrase that fits easily into his political vocabulary. Preliminary results from parliamentary and presidential elections

suggested severe losses for the democrats, who only eight months ago were both strong and united. Steve Crawshaw says the biggest gainer in the elections was a quasi-fascist opposition candidate.

Mr Milosevic's favoured candidate to be Serbian president looked set to gain around 35 per cent of the vote; the candidate of the far right, Vojislav Seselj, came second with about 30 per cent; Vuk Draskovic, one of a troika of leaders who spearheaded opposition demonstrations earlier this year, came third, with about 20 per cent. Opposition parties which had called for a boycott of the polls were disappointed that voters failed to respond in sufficient numbers. The turnout was around 60 per cent, comfortably over the 50 per cent minimum.

Mr Milosevic, who served the maximum two terms as Serbian president, has stayed at the top by moving recently to become the leader of Yugoslavia (which now consists of Serbia and the little republic of Montenegro). His predecessor as Yugoslav leader, Zoran Lil-Seseli, of the Serb Radical Parsupporters of the moderate opposition, the choice is depressing - between Mr Lilic, widely regarded as a Milosevic puppet, on the one hand, and the aggressive Mr Seselj, on the othregarded by many as the lesser

evil; but the chances of an in-

creased boycott seem high. If 's less than 50 per cent of eligible voters cast their vote in the second round, then the presidential election will have in be held. a second time.

In December and January, huge street demonstrations forced government retreats. Since then, however, the opposition has fallen into disarray. Zoran Djindjic, mayor of Belgrade and leader of the opposition Democratic Party, led calls for an electoral boycott. But the contradictory signals ("vote!", "don't vote!") from the opposition disoriented many voters. The Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), which sent election observers, hlamed the government for the "climate of " mistrust" which surrounded the election process, including doubts over the printing of ballot sheets. The OSCE talked of "serious concerns" about the electoral process - but also insisted publicly that the boycotl had been misguided.

In the parliamentary elections, it seems that the existing: : government coalition will need . .: new allies in order to form a government. Mr Seselj's Radical Party came second. But there has been widespread speculation in recent weeks. that Mr Milosevic has struck a secret deal with Mr Draskovic. According to one popular theory, the breakaway member of the opposition troiks could receive a position in the new government, in return for a promise of partial loyalty to Mr

Milosevic.

Western observers agreed that an important flaw in the -. electoral process included highly distorted television coverage. c; looks set to take over from . The OSCE referred to a report his political master as Serbian produced by the European Inpresident. He will face Mr stitute for the Media, whose monitoring mission analysed ty, in a run-off on 5 October. For Serbian media coverage in quantified detail. In particular, the institute argued that election coverage on state television ~ the only television which people in many parts of Serbia can see, because of government reer. Mr Lilic is likely to be strictions on independent broadcasting - was "fundamentally flawed".

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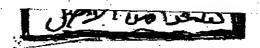
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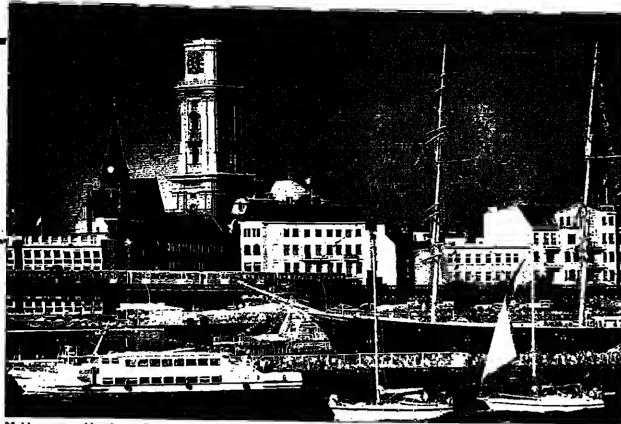
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Making waves: Hamburg, Germany's gateway to the world, where the mayor played the racist card Photograph: Rex

Red Hamburg snubs racists

Chancellor Helmut Kohl's beleaguered government has been thrown a life-line by even more shambolic opponents. As the Social Democrats self-destruct in Red Hamburg, Imre Karacs examines the prospects of the German opposition.

For the first time since the beginning of the election campaign, Henning Voscherau did the decent thing yesterday. "Hamburg, my hometown, I wish you luck," he said. With those words he bade farewell not only to Germany's gateway to the world, but to national politics.

"Good riddance," some people in his party muttered. For Mr Voscherau, outgoing mayor of Hamburg and would-be Social Democrat finance minister, is guilty of an unforgivable sin. To descend into the gutter in search of the racist vote might be excusable. But to end up losing votes despite a blatantly populist campaign is very careless indeed. The tragedy for the SPD is that Mr Voscherau's way represented the future. He and his friends had seco Tony Blair shift the Labour Party to the right and ride the populist wave to power. If it worked in Britain, it should work in Hamburg, he

The winning theme was to be "law and order", the words in their original English emblazoned across the posters of Hamburg. But given that the Social Democrats have run the city for 40 years, and Mr Voscherau had been mayor for the last 10, he could. not exactly blame the local government.

So Mr Voscherau and pointed the finger at the enemy in the midst: foreigners. He was to comhat crime by sending "home" the immigrants who were largely responsible for soaring crime statistics.

The gambit worked, to some extent. On Mr Voscherau's coat-tails, the loathsome German People's Union nearly sneaked into the regional assembly, falling less than 300 votes short of the eotry ticket. The Christian Democrats, the mainstream lawand-order party, increased their vote by 5 per cent. But the Social Democrats lost 5

per cent, plunging to their lowest share of the vote in Hamburg since the war. The party still came in first, and should be able to form the city's government in tandem with the Greens. But the experience has left a bitter taste which is bound to linger until oext September's national elections.

For the linkage between law and order and immigration was not a fringe issue floated by a marginal politician. Mr Voscherau had been marked out for greater things, and his campaign theme was the trial balloon of the Social Democrats' best-placed champion against Mr Kohl next

"Internal security" and the danger posed to German society by foreigners is the hobby horse of Mr Voscherau's closest political ally, Gerhard Schrocuer, Prime Minister of neighbouring Lower Saxony. Mr Schroeder fancies himself as the German Tony Blair. He has his own regional elections next April, and if he wins those handsomely, he will make a hid for the national nomination.

Mr Schroeder was adamant yesterday he will not alter his strategy.

France's favourite game show host not amused by allegations of funny business

is the country's most popular television game show a fix? At least three fingers of suspicion point at the presenter of Intervilles, the prototype for Jeux sans Frontières. A French institution lies in aruins. John Lichfield plays the joker ...

Say it ain't so, Olivier. The problem is that Olivier Chiabodo has vociferously said it ain't so but, in the face of the photographic evidence, no ooc much believes him.

Mr Chiabodo is the referee and co-presenter of Intervilles, the knockabout knockout contest which has been one of France's favourite television programmes for three decades. Geoeral de Gaulle, at the height of his powers, would rearrange his schedule to ensure that he could watch the show, celebrated, amongst other things, for a kind of mock bullfight with adolescent cows wearing rubber halls on their

It is now alleged that on at least two occasions, this year's

the satirical oewspaper, Le Canard Enchaine, which first made the allegations. So has Jean-Marie Delahaye, mayor of one of the Puy-du-Fou villages and leader of the team on the fateful night.

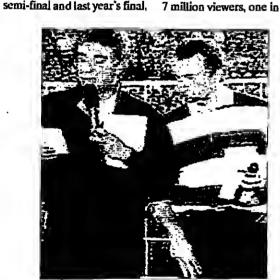
In the meantime, everyone has started throwing mud at everyone else - rather like a sequence from Intervilles itself.

The mayor of a village beatco by Puy-du-Fou last year anoounced he had seeo Mr Chiabodo making similar signs at a similarly tense point in the 1996 final. Gilbert Baumet, mayor of Pont-Saint-Esprit, said he believed the gestures were made to the saintly Mr de Villiers himself, sitting in the audience, who relayed them to his team.

After a crisis meeting at TF1, senior executives were shown every edition of Intervilles for the last two years (itself an exquisite form of punishment They also came to the conclusion that there was funny husiness io last year's final.

Mr Chiabodo tersely denies all charges. "I was scratching myself," he is reported to have told his bosses. "You'd have to

be an idiot," he told Canard. But why would he help Puydu-Fou to win? The show has 7 million viewers, one in eight



Olivier Chaibodo: Allegedly shown on French television signalling the answers

the outcome was fixed by the of all French people. For small referee, Mr Chiabodo. On both occasions the beneficiary was Puy-du-Fou, a collection of villages in western France, whose chief local hig-wig is Philippe de Villiers, an aristocratic, ultraconservative, anti-European politician.

The videotape of the semifinal in July shows Mr Chiabodo giving a surreptitious, three-fingered gesture on three occasions, as the Puy-du-Fou villagers were struggling to answer a multiple-choice question. We are agreed that the answer is number three," announced the team leader.

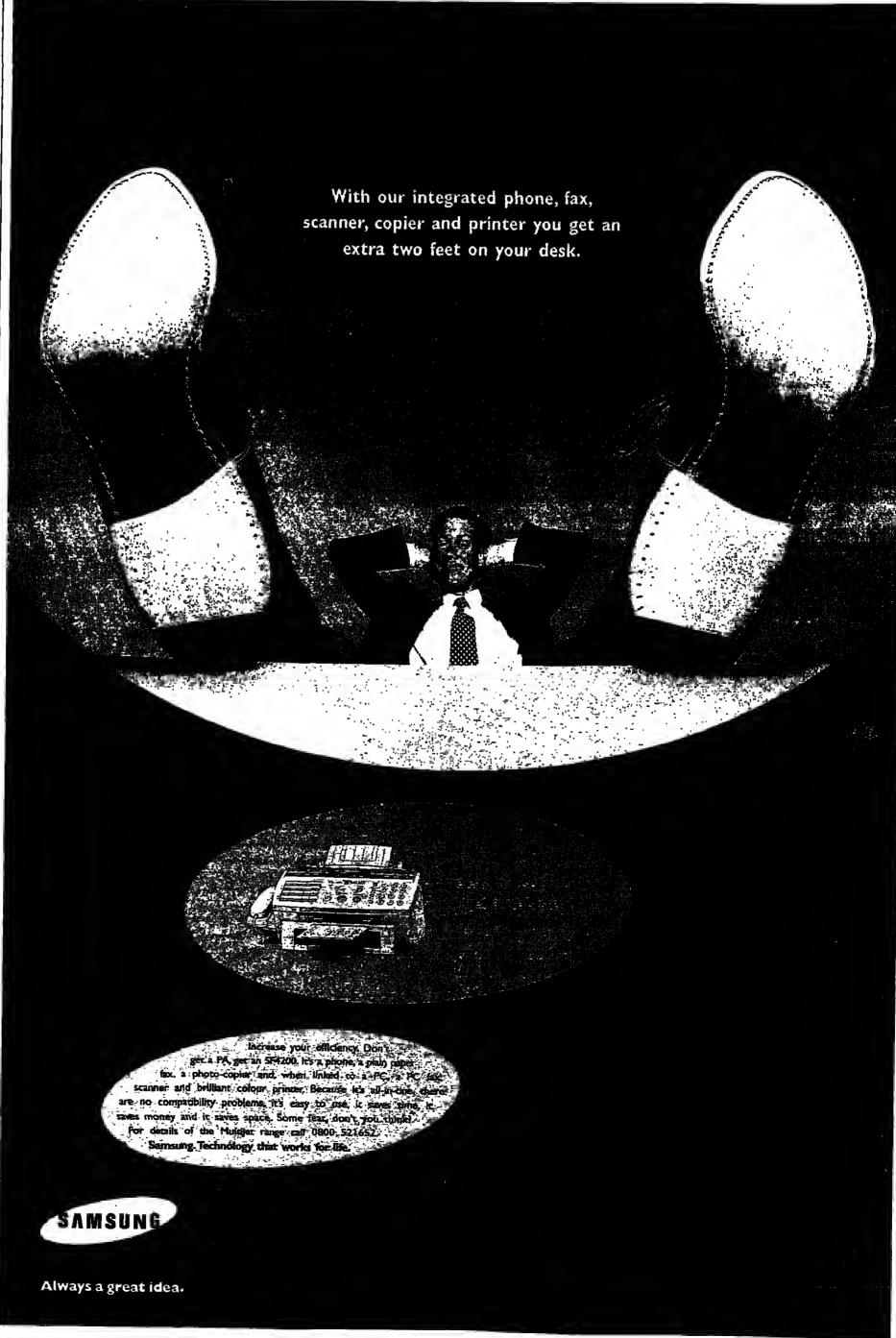
A few minutes later, with the referee out of camera shot, the Puy-du-Fou team again gave the right answer but, ooce again, seemed to know the number of the answer, rather

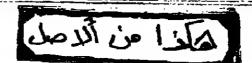
than the answer itself. The main Freoch private television channel. TF1, and the production company of Intervilles, have said they will start legal action against Mr Chiabodo. He has said he will sue

French communities, appearing on Intervilles, and especially making an extended run, is second only to being visited by the Tour de France as a means of boosting domestic tourism.

Villages already pay for the right to be on the show. The suspicion - as yet no more than that - is that some villages might also pay to win. Puy-du-Fou, in the Vendée, south of Brittany, has a musical and dance festival each summer, which attracts tens of thousands. It also has a son et lumière show which seeks to vindicate the actions of the local royalist counter-revolutionaries massacred in thousands during the French Revolutioo - an issue dear to Mr de Villiers' heart.

TFI has promised the most vigorous investigation. It says it will start legal action, not just against Mr Chiabodo, but also against persons unknown, suggesting it suspects some kind of conspiracy. "The credibility of the station is threatened," said its director of communications.





Commuters suffer heavy delays after Southall rail crash

Last week's train crash at Southall paralysed a key stretch of the rail network, severely disrupting commuter traffic. Randeep Ramesh, Transport Correspondent, predicts that today's journey will be easier.

Train operators promised a "near normal" service today after commuters suffered 24 hours of travel chaos.

Friday's west London train crash disaster at Southall, which killed six people, saw rail services on the busy section of track between Reading and Paddington suspended - forcing other train companies to put on extra carriages.

Extra carriages were added to existing services between Reading and Waterioo, although the number of services was not being increased. Train companies said the only problems for travellers today was that "a few peak-hour trains may terminate earlier than expected but passengers could use connecting services". Yesterday, South West Trains added

up to four extra carriages on services to Bristol and Reading. Some Great Western high-speed trains, which would normally terminate at Paddington, were redirected to Waterloo.

Motoring organisations reported heavier traffic than usual on the local roads surrounding train stations and on the M4 heading into London. This is not expected to continue today. A spokesman for Great Western Trains, said that there was



Passengers at Reading station queuing for trains to London which were disrupted while the track was repaired at Southall

died and more than 160 other passengers

customers from the south west and speed train from Swansea to Paddington still have to replace 500 yards of damaged have refused to comment on whether the Wales. In London, travellers were told to smashed into an empty freight train track and signalling. Investigations are Advanced Warning System was working

TV producer hits out at **BBC** 'quota' on swearing

Television executives at the BBC have told one of Britain's top television producers to remove four swear words from a new BBC1 drama.

Kenith Trodd, who made Karuoke and Cold Lazarus, has been allowed to keep three swear words in his new football film The Fix to be shown next week. But he hit out at the corporation's "unofficial quota" keep-

ing and is furious at what he calls the BBC's nonsensical attitude Mr Trodd says BBC1 executives are too quick to censor dra-

mas they believe could offend the public. His latest work, to be screened on 4 October, centres on the 1963 football betting scandal. The comedian Steve Coogan stars as a tahloid journalist.

Mr Trodd's first version used strong dressing room language and featured seven expletives.

"They [the executives] never know their own minds from month to month. When we made the film it was cleared all the way up the ladder," he said.

"Now long after the film is finished they announce they want all of the f-words out.

"It's not overdone and all of them occur in natural places within context. Time moves on and people's attitudes change. I remember when the word we couldn't use was 'hloody'.

"It is a very BBC1 problem because Our Friends In The North and Holding On on BBC2 have swearing in some profusion. It is a silly preoccupation and a neurosis on the part of senior exec-

"We have to go back to the cutting rooms and do it which will cost several thousand pounds to re-voice and re-cut." Mr Trodd

A spokesman for BBC drama said: "A number of expletives have been removed from The Fix, this is part of the normal editorial process which takes account of the wider audience on



Brothers in arms: Liam (left) and Noel Gallagher Photograph: Russell Boyce/Reuters

Police zero in on Oasis touts

A "zero tolerance zone" will be set up to trap ticket touts who try to target fans at three Oasis concerts, police warned yesterday. Sergeant Dick Sutton, who is leading policing of the concerts on Thursday, Friday and Saturday at Earls Court in London, said he wanted to deter fans from turning up in the hope of huying black market tickets.

He said the tout "exclusion zone" will be enforced in and around Earls Court Underground station. "We are expecting 20,000 fans at each concert.

"Crowd control is a concern and we want to send the message to people who haven't got a ticket that there is oo point turning up. We will be arresting ticket touts before each concert under a British Rail bye-law."

They would be held until after the concert and released after a caution. "They face losing money by not being able to sell the tickets," Sgt Sutton said.

avoid Paddington station. Six people crossing in front of it at near Southall sta-continuing into the cause of the crash, with in the driver's car, or whether the more tion. While most of the wreckage was key questions about in-train protection sophisticated Automatic Train Protection extra journey time of up to an hour for were injured in Friday's crash when a high cleared from the line yesterday, workers systems still unanswered. Rail bosses (ATP) device was switched on.

Mother smothered girl, 3, after father's threats

A mother "gently" smothered her three-year-old daughter to death after the child's violent and abusive father threatened to take her away, an Old Bailey judge was told yesterday. Rose Auma, 20, ran away from her alcoholic mother at the age of 14 and was repeatedly raped by the father of her child. The court heard she found shelter with a family but was used and ahused by them.

"She was treated as a servant and a source of sexual gratification," said Helena Kennedy QC, for the defence. At 16 she gave birth to Harriette having suffered constant sexual abuse by a friend of the family, who was described as a "violent and aggressive man".

On 6 June, the day before she took ber daughter's life, the father came to her new address in Canning Town, east London, stole all her money, many of her treasured belongings and warned her he intended to come back and take the child. "She lived in

fear of his visits." said Miss Kennedy.

The control of the contro vere depressive illness and the thought of losing her daughter pushed her over the edge. She decided to kill herself, hut worried that her child would be left alone so she decided to kill Harriette as well. Auma said afterwards: "I did it gently. I put a pillow over her face. I wanted us both to go on the same day."

After killing Harriette while she slept, Auma took an overdose hut woke up and was sick. Two days later she was found sitting on a park bench in the pouring rain stuffing pills into her mouth. She then blurted out what she had done and was taken to hospital. Miss Kennedy said: "She has led a terrible life. She lived in terror of the father. She killed the one true person she loved because she felt the fither would come back and take her child away."

Judge Graham Boal QC ordered that she he detained in a secure hospital for treatment under Section 37 of the Mental Health Act. Auma pleaded guilty to manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility. Her plea of not guilty to murder was accepted by the judge, who described the case as "a very sad story" and "a tragedy".

Redwood calls for 'timebomb' action

John Redwood, the Tory trade and industry spokesman, yesterday called for Tony Blair to intervene and put more government money into defusing the computer "timebomb" set for the year 2000.

Mr Redwood accused the Government of passing the huck over the issue in a letter to the Prime Minister following the disclosures in The Independent that the head of a taskforce feared not enough was being done. "Action needs to be taken now to ensure all computer systems work smoothly at the beginning of the year 2000," Mr Redwood said. "Money for this task should become from within the [Department of Trade and Industry] budget. There: are many areas which could be trimmed."

Last week, Barbara Roche, the DTI minister handling the issue, denied government inaction, but Mr Redwood said: "We have discovered that the matter has been passed from Margaret Beckett to John Battle and from him to Barbara Roche; that the DTI seems keen to transfer responsibility to the Cabinet Office but the Cabinet Office is not responsible for making British husiness. generally aware of the scale and urgency of the problem. The Independent ... has established that the Government has committed very little staff or money to what is an enormous problem facing the British economy."

Boy, 7, dies on M61

A seven-year-old boy was killed as he dashed ncross a busy motorway with a group of friends at the weekend. Gary Cunliffe. of Clayton Brook, near Preston, was struck by a car on the M61 near Preston, Lancashire. He was airlifted to the Royal Preston Hospital by police helicopter but died 10 minutes after he arrived.

Lancashire Police said an investigation was under way but there was no suggestion that Gary was being chased or that the boys were playing "chicken". A spokeswoman said the tragedy underlined the danger of children going anywhere near motorways. "At no time should anyone go onto the car-riageway, let alone a child," she said.

Drink-drive push

Less than a month after the car crash which killed Diana, Princess of Wales, the EU transport commissioner Neil Kintock wants to toughen drink-driving laws across Europe.Britain would be forced to limit motorists to around one pint of beer prone glass of wine under legislation being prepared by the European Commissional a majority of EU governments back the plan, the legal limit for alcohol in the back will be harmonised at 50mg per 100ml throughout the bloc. The present legal h in the UK is 80mg. Mr Kinnock will outline details of the legislation to Europe's transport ministers when they meet in Linembourg on 9 October.

- Katherine Butler

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DNA profiles tested

Detectives hunting the killer of a student teacher who was strangled while hitchhiking 27 years ago have put together a DNA profile of the man responsible for the crime. Derbyshire police said yesterday that the Forensic Science Service ohtained the DNA "fingerprint" from a minute sample left on a garment worn by Barbara Mayo, 24, who was sexual assaulted and strangled in October 1970 as she tried to thumb a lift ... from her west London home to Catterick, North Yorkshire.

Don Dovaston, Assistant Chief Constable for Operations, said the DNA profile was obtained from clothing kept by police since Ms Mayo's body was found in woodland near Junction 29 of the MI. He said more than 200,000 DNA profiles kept on a database had been eliminated from the inquiry in the last three weeks. Most of the 9,000 samples taken from serving prisoners around the country had also been tested and failed to produce a match, he added.

Former boxing champion's quest for greater knowledge lands him in court over false information on grant application

that Terry Marsh, the former champion didate, acquired his taste for learning.

So keenly was his appetite whetted that after graduating in politics and government, he applied for a second grant to enable him Speak, for the prosecution. to study for another degree. Southwark

It was while detained at Her Majesty's Plea- Crown Court in south London, was told yes- town where he stood down as the Liber- 1995. Mr Speak told the jury that, having the boxing promoter, following 10 months sure, awaiting trial for attempted murder, terday. The problem was that Mr Marsh allegedly failed to tell the London Borough boxer and one-time Liberal Democrat can- of Tower Hamlets that he had already received one grant. "He deliberately censored ter Tower Hamlets authorities called in the he was not entitled to any further financertain information about himself and left it off the application form," said Michael

Mr Marsh, 39, of Basildon, the Essex cation authority between May and June of the attempted murder of Frank Warren,

al Democrat election candidate this year received a grant from Essex County Counafter being charged in connection with the cil for his first BA honours degree at Lonstudent grant application, was arrested af- don Guildhall University, Mr Marsh knew police. The former IBF world light-wel-cial assistance. The court heard that he beterweight title holder, denies a charge of gan studying for the initial course in 1991, furnishing false information to the edu- after being acquitted at the Old Bailey of.

spent in prison on remand.

Mr Speak alleged that Mr Marsh, a former fireman and Royal Marine commando, lied when answering a question on the application form about whether he had applied for a grant before.

The trial continues today. - Kathy Marks

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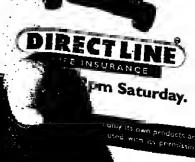
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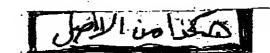
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Food police swamp the flavours of the future

Restaurateurs are going on the offensive against what they see as

excessive regulation. They fear that if the food police have their \mathbf{f}^{r} in way, the restaurant of the future will be a dull and sterile place. Louise Jury gets a taste.

> An overweight man orders a steak sandwich and the waiter orders him to step on to scales. but the industry is very serious. A woman asks for soft cheese and the waiter produces a portion from a freezer box. "It's safe," he explains.

Posters warn of the hazards of drinking when pregnant. Other signs show how to help someone who is choking. The staff are in sterile uniforms more akin to a hospital.

The scene being painted by restaurateurs, caterors and brewers is unappetising. They have devised a script of what such an evening out might be like and it will be presented in a mock restaurant set - Café La Futura - to MPs at the Labour

party conference next week. The sketch plays for laughs, Its leaders say warning signs to pregnant women, for instance, are obligatory in some parts of inedible," she says. "But it's the United States. The nosmoking laws introduced in

New York restaurants saw a slump in attendance. And overregulation is already a problem in Britain, they claim.

Michael Gottlieb, who runs Smollensky's restaurant in Londoo and chairs the Restaurateurs Association of Great Britain, said: "It's already very hard to get a good piece of ripe cheese, for example, hecause they're supposed to chill them at a certain temperature that takes the enjoyment away.

"And restaurants have to use pasteurised eggs and if you want to make mayonnaise they're not as good. It's taking a lot of the pleasure out of going out to eat."

In a pre-emptive strike, the association has formed the Fo-

rum for Reasonable Regulation with other groups in the catering and hrewing industries. It will he taking the Café La Futura around Britain to highlight the tightening of the law.

Roger Davis, chairman of the European Catering Association, said the hygiene regu lations concerning foodbad become "extremely onerous". "The amount of regulation requires full-time senior managers who are just making sure everybody keeps the right records," he said. Most felt safe where they are, otherwise they voted with their feet. "Yet very few people feel safe with the actual growers of the food - with poultry or what pesticides are sprayed on our fruit and veg."



Britain's cooks turn to Convenient option



Despite the popularity of television chefs, Britain has become a nation of convenience eaters. A recent survey showed that 95 per cent of the country uses readymade meals.

Kate Watson-Smyth reports on the rise of pre-prepared food.

Some months ago, there was a joke doing the rounds among society hostesses who, on being cumplimented on the excellence of their cuisine, would airily mention that Mrs Sieff was in the kitcheo.

Those in on the joke would mile quietly to themselves while the others would request the lady's phone number and resolve to book her themselves.

But the venerable Mrs Sieff turned out to be a cuphemism for a ready-made meal bought in from Marks & Spencer - artfully arranged on the best china, the damning evidence of the cartons hastily concealed in the bin.

It is a far cry from dinner parties of 20 years ago, when no self-respecting hostess would spend less than three days in the kitchen with several pots of most informal of get-togethers.

Nowadays, convenience

life and an NOP survey has re-

vealed that 95 per cent of Britain's cooks now admit to using ready-made meals.

More than two thirds use supermarket meals from the chill cabinet such as pizzas, pasta and pasta sauces at least once a week and 11 per cent claim to use them at least once a day.

Consumption of readymade meals in the UK has doubled in five years to 99,000 tonnes last year, making a shopping bill of £505m. The most popular dish is lasagne, followed by curry. Britons also ate their way through 47,000 tonnes of fresh pasta.

This is despite the fact that national terrestrial television is at present showing 15 hours of food and cookery programmes io a week and one cable channel is entirely devoted to the subject.

Tim Sutton, of Geest Prepared Foods which commissigned the Taste 2000 research. report, said: "People love to titillate their taste buds by watching sumptuous cookery programmes on TV hut it's often more for entertainment value. For everyday cooking, we don't have the time and are relying more and more on the quality and convenience of fresh prepared food."

But some things never change. Although most people now cheerfully own up to cheatdouble cream before even the ing, in the North-east, for example, 16 per cent still pretend they have been slaving over a foods are an accepted part of hot stove in order to satisfy their

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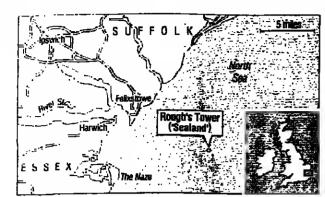


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Global fraudsters use sea fortress as passport to riches



Money-launderers and drug-dealers have discovered a new way to fool banks and fraud investigators; they use false identities and pretend to be from a fictitious country. Steve Boggan discovered how they are using their new scam all over the world - and how effective it can be.

Fake passports from a self-proclaimed "principality" off the English coast are being used by criminals in multi-million pound money-laundering and drug-smaggling operations.

law nfficers in Slovenia found that forged diplomato papers from the Principality of Sealand were used to open hank accounts through which the proceeds of illegal pyramid investment schemes in eastern Europe were channelled.

Bank and customs officials around the world have been fooled into accepting Scaland passports as valid - even though the principality is nothing more than a Second World War naval fortress, seven miles off the coast of Felixstowe,

The principality was found-75, a wealthy husinessman who lives on the concrete platform with his wife Joan. He declared independence in 1966 and produces his own passports, stamps and coins but he has no dealings with the criminals and is

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ed 30 years ago by Roy Bates. Prince of all he surveys: Roy Bates (right) declared independence for Sealand, a concrete fortress in the North Sea (above), in 1966

Photographs: East Anglian Daily Times

During the past year, evi-

world. Passports seized in the Slovenian caper had cotry and dence has emerged that fake exit stamps from at least 10 Sealand passports have been countries, including Bulgaria, £1,000 a time to Hong Kong cit-

furious they are farging his used by crooks all over the Romania, Iraq, Iran and Libya. izens befare the handover to Police are examining evidence China in July. The Independent that 4,000 forged Sealand passports were sold at around .

has been told that drug smugglers have also been apprehended carrying the fake

Mr Bates was enraged to learn that Torsten Reineck, the German on whose houseboat Andrew Cunanan committed suicide after the murder of Gianni Versace, carries a Principality of Sealand passport. It is understood he drives around Los Angeles in a car with Sealand "diplomatic plates".

Mr Bates, who uses the title of Prince, says international lawyers believe his declaratioo of independence is valid because, when he made it, the fort stood outside British territorial waters. Britain later extended its waters to include Sealand

principality. Whether or not his passports this," he told The Independent, rested. The world is awash with fake passports. I'm just angry they're charged only with forgery and faking mine and using them for

illegal purposes.". Interpol was alerted to the latest scam by the Slovenian au- Austria and she does not expect ty of Sealand diplomatic pass- of Sealand letterhead, ad- passports.

port. At first, the bank suspected nothing, but its manager called in the Sloveoian Office for Mnney Laundering Prevention (OMLP) ooce 12 million deutschmarks (£4.36m) arrived in a ooe-mooth period from Germany, Luxembourg and the

"The couple posed as hushand and wife, and the man described himself as minister of economic affairs for the Principality of Sealand," said Klaudijo Stroligo, director of the OMLP. There are so many new states and young countries now that the bank official accepted the passport as identification to open the account."

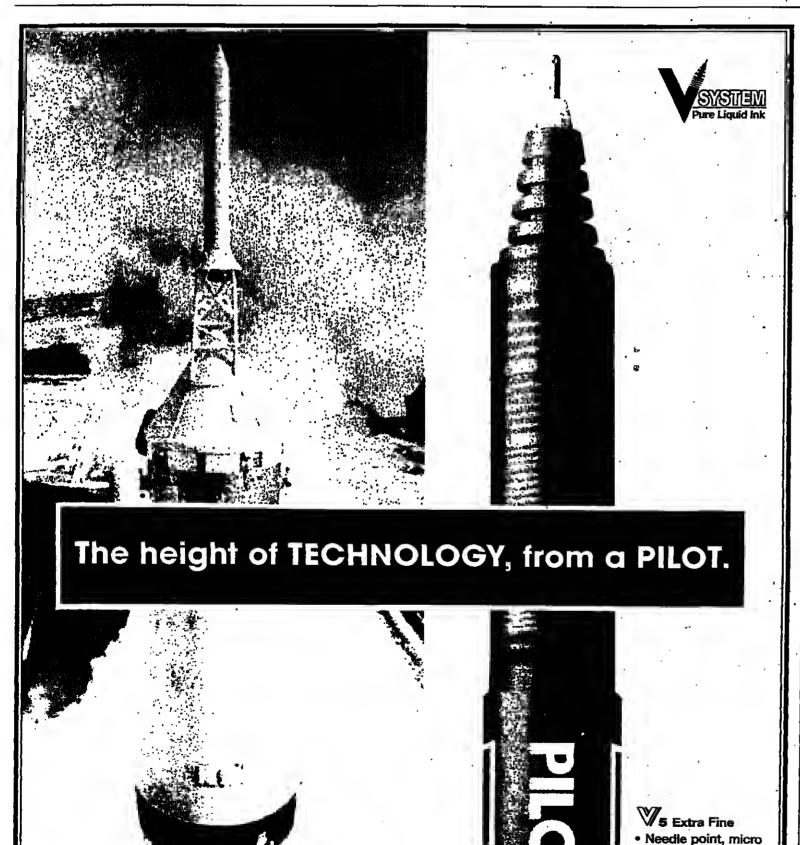
Mr Stroligo and Barbara Brezigar, the state prosecutor, were alerted by the bank after al times by gangsters who want the couple withdrew 200,000 and does not recognise it as a . marks and later made arrangements to draw out a further 4 million marks, The bank alare valid, the Prince of Sealand lowed them to draw out a smallsaid yesterday that those being er amount and the couple were used by criminals were oot is- followed to the border with took it after landing by helisued by him. "Every country in Italy, where they failed to copter and surprising the the world has problems like declare the cash and were ar-

However, they could be were granted bail by a judge. Ms Brezigar said the case was still live, but the couple are now in dressed in a number of countries and asking for aid. Mr Stroligo refused to say which countries responded but he said several had replied, promising money.

"It presected us with a strange philosophical question," he added. "It was about territoriality and recognition. Did we recognise these passports or oot? Who is to say what is or isn'l a country? For a time in 1991, after Slovenia was briefly caught up in the Bosnian war, many countries refused to recognise our nation."

News of the underworld's fascination with Sealand came as no surprise to Mr Bates. Over the past three decades, his domain has been targeted severto use it as a tax dodge or a haven for illicit activities. In the 1970s, the fortress was invaded by Dutch gangsters who look his son, Michael, hostage. Mr Bales and a oumber of supporters reinvaders.

A spokeswoman for the Home Office said Sealand, which is officially known as "Rough's Tower Gun Plaiform", was part of the UK and described its passports as "fictitious". It is understood thorities last year, after two Aus- to see them again. During her that Interpol has put nut an trians opened a bank account in investigations, papers were alert for immigration authorifalse names using a Principali- seized, bearing the Principality ties to watch out for Sealand



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Gunmen shot and wounded two Israeli security guards working at the Israeli embassy in Amman, the Inrdanian capital, yesterday. The vehicle stopped and a man took his gun out and shot at the two Israel's, wounding both of them." said a Jordanian official. Israel later said there were three

The attack was claimed by a hitherto unknown group culled the Jordaniao Islamic Resistance io a fax to ocws agencies in Beirut. It said the shooting was in response to "the Ziooist enemy's practices against nur people in Jordun. Palestine and Lebanon" and called for the release of Alimed Dagamsch, the Jurdamian soldier who killed seven tsraeli girls on a school outing to the Jordan river in March.

Pulice blocked off the street in Amman while detectives hegan collecting evidence. In Israel, the two guards were identified as Yaakov Levine and Amikam Hadar. They were reported to have suffered only slight injuries.

The Jordanian police officer leading investigations into the attack said the gunmen appeared to have waited for their target at a street corner and opened fire as the two nien, in an unmarked hire car with Jordanian licence plates, slowed down. The peace treaty between Israel and Inrdan signed in 1994 has never been popular with Inrdanians, who feel it has brought them no gains. Nevertheless, King Hussein has stuck firmly in his alliance with the Uoited States and Israel, despite his repeated criticism of the policies of the Israeli government.

—Patrick Cockburn, Jerusalem



Kofi Annan: 'Quiet revolution' to streamline the UN

Cook sees case for change at the UN

Britain may be a diminished power in the world but it has held on to one of only five permanent seats in the UN Security Council. Today, it will embrace plans for an expansion of

that membership. At the United Nations, David Usborne reports on a year hacked broadening the change of heart.

In the jargon, they are the P-5. For more than 50 years, the Uoited States, Russia, China, France and Britain have reigned supreme at the heart nf the most powerful nf all the UN's multiple institutions, the Security Council.

The complaint is that the present structure, with the P-5 and a rotating membership of 10

view based more on whn won the Second World War than on present-day realities. Debate on overhauling the UN, Kofi Annan. Couocil has been gathering momentum for years. While the United States carlier this

arguably one of the last legacies of empire. This morning, Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, will sigoal a change. In his debut address to the annual meeting of the UN General Assembly, he is set not naly to voice support for reform of the Council but

line-up, Britain remained de-

fensive. Its spot nn the P-5 was

His appeal will form part of a wider pitch for progress on other countries, reflects a world all fronts of UN reform. He is expected strongly to back the the Security Council. package for change unveiled by the Secretary General of the Mr Annan broke with tra-

a speech before the start ni the general debate in the Assembly, which is led by foreign ministers from all 185 member countries and, in the case of the US, by President Bill Clinton. In it Mr Annan pleaded for backing for his reform drive. "Let this be the Reform Assembly," he declared.

Mr Annan's proposals - his "quiet revolutinn" - aim to streamline the UN bureau-But patience with this ex- to ask that it be agreed quickly, cracy and direct manney saved calcitrant Congress acquiesces.

clusive club has been eroding. If possibly by the end of the from administrative costs to develupment projects. The other main planks of the reform agenda are restoring the UN's financial health and revamping

Joscow

1.50

Following America's lead, Mr Cook will nominate Germany and Japan as two clear candidates for permanent spots dition yesterday by delivering in the Council. Officials indicated, however, that he will steer clear of the putentially intractable issue of which Third World countries may be offered three more permanent seats.

Yesterday, President Clinton told the Assembly progress was being made towards persunding the US Congress to release at least a portion of the roughly \$1.5bn Washington still owes the UN. As much as \$900m could be paid if a re-

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Doctors in Aids vaccine trial

A group of doctors said yesterday that they would submit themselves as the ultimate guinca-pigs in the search for a vaccine against Aids, About 50 members of the International Association of Physicians in Aids Care are ready to be injected with a trial vaccinc containing a small amount of a live, though genetically weakened, strain of the HIV virus that causes Aids. Discussion on launching the trials will be opened with US government afficials in Washington later this week.

Japan's Cabinet Convict quits

A minister who had become known as the "Cabinet Convict" was forced to resign yesterday in a political flasco which has undermined confidence in the Japanese government.

Ryutaro Hashimoto, the Prime Minister, made a public apolngy following the departure of Kokn Satn, whom he appointed as head of the Management and Co-ordination Agency in a cabmet reshuffle 12 days ago. The appointment provoked nationwide disgust because in 1986 Mr Sato, whose new brief included cleaning np Japan's bureaucracy, received a three-year suspended sentence for taking an \$8,000 bribe. Richard Lloyd Parry

Banana lawyers attack press

The trial of former Zimbabwean president Canaan Banana on 11 charges of sodomy and indecent assault began yesterday in Harare with a plea from his lawyers for dismissal because sensational press coverage had prejudiced the case. Mr Banana, who attended court with his wife Janet, was charged after Jefta Dube. a former police inspector, claimed during a murder trial that he killed a man who called him Mr Banana's "wife". Mr Dube said Mr Banana had forced him into a homosexual relationship when he worked as an aide. Homosexual acts are illegal in Zimbahwe and carry a jail sentence of up to 10 years.

Men's beards too short

Afghanistan's fundamentalist Islamic Taliban, which rules much of the country, has punished 16 men far trimming their beards. as required by Islamic law. Radio Shariat said the men had been caught by the Department for Promnting Virtue and Preventing Vice while on nperations in Kabul. The Taliban has proceed all men to grow their beards long ennugh in protrude out of a fist clasped at the base of the chin.



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Moscow reopens the door to religious intolerance

Boris Yeltsin is poised to pass a law giving Russia's minority religions fewer rights than they have in any other secular society. Only two months ago, following protests from the Pope, the United States and International civil rights groups, he vetoed similar legislation, casting himself as the defender of the freedom to worship. Phil Reeves in Moscow investigates

what went wrong.

The other day Vadim Touneyev had a nasty shock. He and his colleagues had been invited to a jubilee celebration in a small town outside Moscow. They decided to bake a huge cake to give to local officials. Their offering, all 850kg of it, was accepted happily enough by the community elders when they arrived at Orekhevo-Zuyevo, Yet they were not. Organisers told them that they could attend the festivities, but - as members of a Haré Krishna society - they would not be allowed to speak publicly. Any attempt to preach or proselytise would be against the law, the officials declared,

Legally, the officials were wrong. But for Mr Touneyev, the incident was ominous. "This is what will happen in the future. This is the kind of discrimination we can expect from local authorities when the law goes through," he said.

The law in question is a bill sharply curtailing freedom of worship in Russia. It was overwhelmingly passed by the lower house of parliament in Moscow last week. Every sign suggests that in the next few weeks it will breeze through the upper house and on to the desk of the President himself. who will sign it. Thus will religious intolerance, one of the deepest evils of the Soviet state. be restored to Russia, reversing

Supporters of the hill say it is merely an attempt to protect Russia from the extremist cults which have thrived in the aftermath of Communism, But it has far more to do with a drive. by the Russian Orthodox Church to protect its turf against rivals, such as Catholics, Protestants and Mormons, which have all been increasingly active in the former Soviet Union.

For opponents of the move, this has a grim familiarity. Two months ago, a similar bill landed in Mr Yeltsin's in-tray, prompting an appeal from the Pope and a threat by the United States Senate to withhold \$200m (£125m) in aid if it was passed. To cheers from the West, the President vetoed it, issuing a long statement in which he portrayed himself as a champion of civil rights. It was, he said, his duty "to observe the constitution and to protect the legitimate rights and freedoms of the individual". He promised to find a compromise.

The compromise has, however, stunned the opposition camp in Russia and abroad particularly in Washington. It is almost as draconian as the first draft, prompting speculation that Mr Yeltsin has either changed his mind to appeare the powerful church and Russian nationalist lobby, or was duped by an aide. Rumours abound that Mr Yeltsin did not bother to read the new version, But as it came from the Kremlin itself, he has little choice but to sign it: to veto his own law would make him look foolish.

"He has got himself in a very difficult situation," said Diederik Lohman of Helsinki/Human Rights, which has vowed to take the issue to Russia's Constitutional Court if he signs, "If he vetoes it, he will be accused of not being in control of his own administration. If he signs, there will be another big outery."

The offending law divides rewhich clearly favour Russia's dominant religions, Orthodoxy, Islam, Buddhism and Judaism. one of the triumphs of glasnost. documentary evidence that it those which may face restrict der which all faiths are equal be-



Boris Yeltsin in the Kremlin with Alexyi II (third from right) in June for the latter's fifth anniversary as head of the Russian Orthodox Church

had a legal status in Brezhnev's tions is long - from Baptists and fore the law. At risk are a large compromise will deepen prej-Soviet Union 15 years ago will he recognised legally, and allowed to function normally. Those that cannot will must wait until 15 years have elapsed since they were registered.

During that time, they will ligious bodies into categories. literature, run schools, hold Institute, which monitors reliservices in public places such as hospitals or crematoria, invite foreign preachers, or receive Those churches that can provide charitable status. The list of Russia's 1993 constitution, un- are rarely observed by the let-

Seventh Day Adventists to Jehovah's Witnesses.

The losers "would have fewer rights than minonity believers anywhere outside openly theocratic states such as Saudi Arabia", said Lawrence Uzzell not be able to publish religious, of the Oxford-based Keston gious freedom in the former So-

viet Union.

number of congregations which did not register 15 years ago because of Soviet religious repression. "Even congregations that have existed continuously for decades ... often lacked legal registration until recently because they refused to compromise with a totalitarian atheist state," Mr Uzzell said.

Underlying this, there is a The law blatantly violates deeper worry. Laws in Russia ter. The fear is that Mr Yeltsin's rages loom on the borizon.

udice in a culture which already treats outsiders with suspicion. In Belgorod, 400 miles south of Moscow, officials recently told a Catholic parish that it could not register because it was a for-

eign religious organisation. The priest was reportedly blocked by police from entering the city. Yet his parishioners were all Russians, seeking to reclaim a Catholic Church that was built under the tsars. More such out-

TODAY'S BELIEVERS

In a land where a Communist dictatorship long cracked down on the practice of religion, precise figures for membership of the various religions are difficult to obtain.

However, experts at the Moscow-based Institute of Religion and Law offer this rough statistical breakdown on Russian

Russian Orthodox: 20 million; Muslim: 12 million; Protestant: 1.5 million; Buddhist; 500,000; Jewish; 150,000; Catholic 50,000; Hare Krishna: 10.000; Others: 100,000

Sources: Calumbia and Random House encyclopaedias

New cloud hangs over Mir as Gore admits to doubts about space station's safety

cloud floated around Mir, hinting at new problems aboard the ailing Russian space station, Al Gore, the US Vice-President, suggested that America's patience with the project might finally be exhausted. Reuters reports from Moscow

As a mysterious brown

Calling Mir "a very old space station", the US Vice-President. Al Gore, yesterday hinted that the United States might not send a relief astronaut to the orbiting station as planned later this week.

Mr Gore, who is holding talks with Russia's Prime Minister, Viktor Chernomydrin, outside Moscow, drew a distinction between long-term US-Russian space co-operation and the American commitment to the 1 t-year-old Mir.

"We will make a careful evaluation whether to proceed with the seventh shuttle-Mir docking," he said.

ward will be based solely on mission safety. This is a very old space station."

Mr Gore's cautious statement contrasted sharply with remarks by Mr Cheroomydrin. who has regularly met the American Vice-President to discuss bilateral co-operation on space and technology. "There are no problems for the continuation of joint Russian-American experiments on the Russian space station," he said.

Mr Gore has been a leading proponent of US-Russian conperation in space. But the string of technical failures this

"Any decision to move for- year has inflamed criticism in Washington, which has bankrolled much of Mir's ex-

penses in recent years. Yesterday the ageing space station suffered from several new problems. The central computer went down again and a mysterious hrown eloud apocared outside the craft itself.

Cosmonauts noticed a the brown substance, or drops leaking from the station, which they could not identify. Russian space officials were also unsure what to make of the reports of the brown substance of unknown origin.

"We have another observation which we do not understand at all. When we were monitoring the turning of the ship we saw some brown drops coming from it." Mir's commander Anatoly Solovyov said in a radio exchange.

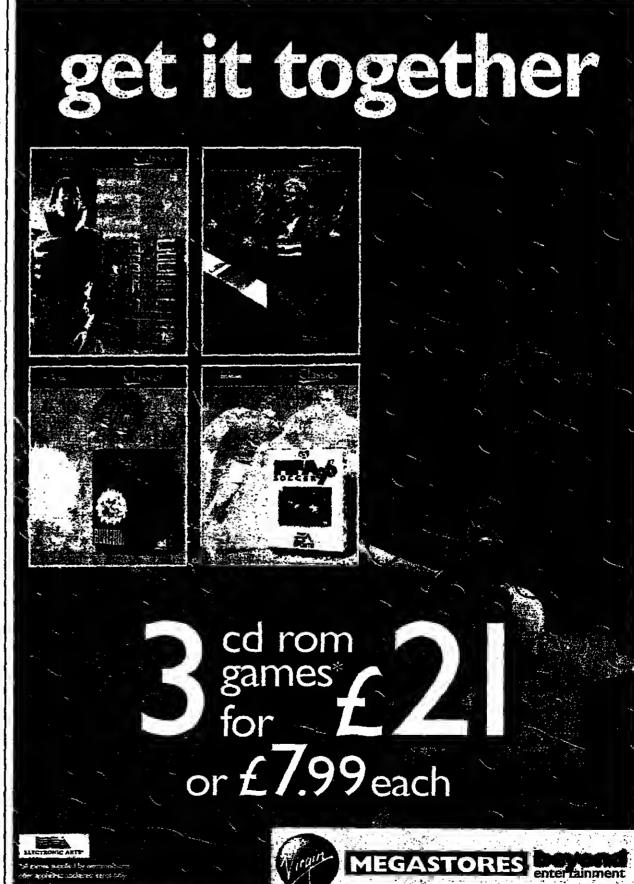
The Flight engineer Pavel Vinogradov said they noticed the drops when they fired the engines of the Source escape capsule to turn the station round, so that its solar panels could absorb more energy.

"The drops were fanning outwards for a long time and then stopped. They were a brown colour," he said.

The computer failure disabled Mir's automatic orients. tion system, which points the station at the Sun for its solar panels to soak up maximum energy. As a result, the crew spont part of the day in darkness with major systems shut down to save power. Later vesterday the crew

was reported to have repaired the space station's computer. The crew had not however. restarted the system that removes carbon dioxide from the stadon. The deputy flight director Viktor Blagov said the problem was relatively easy to rectify and the crew could survive 26 days without the system.

The US space shuttle Atlantis is due to blast off on Thursday with a relief cosmonaut, David Wolf, aboard. It is intended to dock with Mir three days





14/LIB DEM CONFERENCE

Delegates are divided over 'dining with Beelzebub'

Leading figures in the Liberal Democrats have attacked suggestions that the party should move closer to Labour. **But Fran Abrams, Political** Correspondent, found at their conference in Eastbourne that other members welcome the opportunities that collaboration could bring.

Paddy Ashdown was forced to defend his party's policy of "constructive opposition" yesterday amid implied criticism from some of his colleagues. At the same time others were urging bim to grasp the nettle and to form a new alliance with

A new joint cabinet com-

which brings together Liberal Democrats and ministers met for the first time last week, but some in the party believe it

The Liberal Democrat leader suggested he was prepared to take risks in order to win greater influence over government policy. However, he would continue to oppose Labour nn many other issues.

"Although we work with

Labour in areas where it is good for the country to do so and where we agree, we do not have difficulty in being a more effective opposition in issues like under-funding our education and bealth, where Labour has frankly broken its promises. It is monstrous to have a situation where you agree about something, but still refuse to work together in order to put it

At a lunchtime fringe meeting, the party's Social Security Lords, Earl Russell, compared working with Labour to dining with Beelzehub.

"I have no objection whatever to issue-based co-operation. I believe in it strongly. I have no objection at all to supping with the Devil - that's day-to-day politics. What I object to is having to call him an angel because I want my dinner," he said. "... If we go into coalition on the basis of Labour's present policy, I might find that Ian Forster was

one gets what one wants."

·Liz Lynne, the former Liberal Democrat MP for Rochdale who lost her seat to Labour at the general election, also argued that the party should remain proudly independent: "Working with likeminded people, yes. With people in the Cabinet on constitutional reform, yes. But I am sorry to say we won't find those like-minded people in the Cab-

23rd September 1997

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Saudi Arabia has, with the help of God, successfully

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its people with free healthcare, free education to

National Day of the

In the last twenty six years, the Kingdom of

spokesman in the Hnuse of inet protecting the vulnerable in society. We will find those likeminded people elsewhere."

Lord Rodgers, a former Labour Transport Minister who defected to the Social Democrats in 1981, urged the party to think about how it could use its new relationship with Labour and described it as a great opportunity. "We must use that opportunity well and not be frightened of it ... There's a mood for economic, social and constitutional change and it has never been so strong. We right: the tragedy of life is that mustn't shrink from that challenge," he said.

Alan Beith, deputy leader of the party, accused those who had argued against working with the Government of "political immaturity".

"Like children who have never grown up, they say If you speak to him you can't be a friend of mine. You can't talk to my gang and his gang at the

1996

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17,530,000

1,500,000

3,300,000

170,000

10,000

199

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enemoti All together: Paddy Ashdown (centre) and Lib Dem MPs at the party conference yesterday Photograph: Peter Macdiarmic

Treasury spokesman questions need for penny on income tax policy

The Liberal Democrat commitment to a penny-in-the-pound tax increase was the party's most prominent election campaign policy. Anthony Bevins, Political Editor, thinks its future is now in doubt.

Opening the economic debate on the first day of the Liberal Democrats' Eastbourne conference, the party's Treasury spokesman, Malcolm Bruce, told representatives: "After almost a decade dominated by huge public-sector deficits, I believe individual provision in such areas as pensions, along with greater economic stability,

world here in Britain "Of course, if pubic finances is no reason why the tax burden should not in time be lightened. We are not afraid to propose tax bealth and education. rises when they are needed, as



Malcolm Bruce at the conference today: Departments Photograph: Peter Macdiannid need detailed targets

party that favours higher taxes ensure that extra money yields for the sake of it."

Calculations by the Commons library, based on "reacould usher in a new era with sonable" assumptions, show talk today about higher stanthe resources available to cre- that the overall surplus available ate quite simply the best edu- for possible tax cuts, or incation and bealth services in the creased spending on bealth and education - could go from £9bn in 1999/2000 to £34bn in do dramatically improve, there 2003/04. Those figures include an annual 0.75 per cent realterms increase in spending on

But Mr Bruce told the Con-

extra concrete results. Throwing money at problems isn't the answer. When Labour ministers a strong attack on Labour's ini-

thinking about increased resettlement for key public services in which higher resources and higher standards go hand

Mr Bruce proposed a new Public Finances Act, imposing they are now, but we are not a ference: "We must be able to a duty on departments to set our Labour's responsibility."

detailed targets, performance. criteria and operating objectives for the public. He said that was the sort of information that people paying for a private service would expect, and such a service delivery agreement could be po-

liced by parliament. Mr Bruce said that all government employees should be accountable for the delivery of higher standards and pay should be used as a weapon toreward and punish good and bad performance.

"And politicians should be more accountable, loo ... If standards and promises aren't delivered, failing ministers should take pay cuts too. That would concentrate minds at the Department of Health."

Earlier, Mr Bruce delivered tial record. He said: "People dards, you know it is because know that Gordon Brown's they want to delay till tomorrow 'something for nothing' economics just doesn't add up. sources. But I want to see a new And we are seeing the results already. Hospital waiting lists rising to record levels. Nurses and teachers told to take real pay cuts ...

Tony Blair says it's all just the Tory legacy. But now it's

Scots leader calls wants PR for local council elections

One of the first Bills put in the new Scottish Parliament should introduce proportional representation for council elections, Jim Wallace, the Scottish Liberal Democrat leader, declared yesterday. He said there was agreement between the Liberal Democrats and the Scottish National Party to introduce such a Bill and he challenged Labour to give its backing as well.

Addressing the Liberal Democrat conference, he acknowledged that a Scottisb Parliament set up under a voting system based on proportional representation might result in coalition government for Scotland. But he stressed: "The task of Scottish Liberal Democrats is to prepare a distinctive Liberal Democrat platform and to campaign for the election of as many Scottish Liberal Democrat members as possible."

Mr Wallace said 18 years of Tory government had "emasculated local government. He added: "PR for council elections will be a powerful antidote to the seediness too often associated with Labour-run councils in west Central Scotland. the arrogant exercise of unchallenged power by those who all too often take the electorate for granted." Referring to the decision by the people of his own constituency of Orkney to oppose tax-varying powers for the Scottish parliament, Mr Wallace said it would serve as a "reminder to Scots parliamentarians that the Parliament must be sensitive to the needs and aspirations of Scotland's so-called peripheral areas".

Steel under fire for taking £94,000 from hunting lobby

David Steel drew criticism from fellow Liberal Democrats yesterday after revelations that he had accepted £94,000 from the hunting lobby. Although all agreed that the former party leader had the right to express his views, several said they were disappointed that he bad accepted payment as part-time chairin of the Countryside Movement.

Norman Baker, the Liberal Democrat MP for Lewes, pointed out that Lord Steel, who retired as an MP in May, had registered his financial interest in the group. "It was always known he was heavily involved. Personally I would not want to take money from any external source. I think being an MP is a full time job," he said.

Jackie Ballard, MP for Taunton, is a sponsor of the Private Member's Bill to ban hunting with dogs which is being brought by the Labour MP for Worcester, Michael Foster, this autumn.

She said Lord Steel had made his views on hunting - that others should be free to take part in it - well known. But she added: "I actually think they have got bad value for their money because they are going to lose when it goes through parliament. I have no problem with David Steel, but I don't get paid to express my views which are strongly anti-hunting."

Jo Morton, delegate for Hexham and a member of the Green Liberal Democrats, said: "I think there's a clear line between being paid to do a job and simply promoting a good cause."

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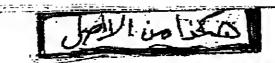
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15/POLITICS



Tierup: William Hague adjusts his attire on a visit to the North-East

Photograph: Raoul Dixon/North News

Hague boasts of pay restraint but earns more than Cabinet

William Hague

yesterday announced he had surrendered £15,000 in severance pay. But as Colin Brown, Chief Political Correspondent, points out, the leader of Her Majesty's Opposition still gets more than Cabinet ministers.

William Hague yesterday sought to embarrass the Cabinet over its efforts to show pay restraint by disclosing that he had returned £15,000 m sever-

ance pay.
The Tory leader was entitled to the bonus after losing his post as a Cabinet minister in the Labour landslide on 1 May.

cuit at Spetterton, Norfolk, he told journalists that he had returned the payment.

"I have given £15,000 back to the Government without trumpeting it, without making a special announcement about it, because I thought I was being paid too much," he

However, since winning the leadership of the Tory party, Mr Hague has taken his full entitlement as Leader of the Opposition, amounting to a total £98,000. He added: "I have committed myself to inflationlinked increases."

Mr Hague's self-sacrifice Street officials, who pointed out that as the Leader of the Opposition. Tony Blair had declined three increases in salary During a visit to a racing cirand took a reduced salary.

"William Hague's salary is £12,000 more than than Mr Blair as Leader of the Opposition," said a spokesman, who suggested Mr Hague would take a cut if he accepted per-

tormance-related pay. The Conservative leader also took a month to decide to hand back the money to the Treasury. Tory sources said he received the £15,000 in late May or early June, and decided to return it in July, after he had won the leadership.

Mr Blair plunged the Gov-ernment into a dilemma over pay rises when he announced last week that he would forgo failed to impress Downing a further rise next April of £40,000 to show a lead to 1.3 million public sector workers. including nurses, doctors and teachers, who were being asked

Major plans an emotional curtain-call

Joh Major will go to the Totes' Blackpool corerence to back the neyleader. Will that be useul? Yes, says Colin Brom: Mr Hague needs all the help he can get.

Theformer prime minister, JohrMajor, will make an emotioni return to the platform at the cening of the Conservative Part conference in Blackpool to ally support for William

be Tory leader's friends saicthat Mr Major would be appaining for the loyalty of theconference following the parr's worst election defeat this cenury.

He will be backing Wilam," said a source. It will be to late to influence the releaersbip, but the former prine minister is expected to helphore up his embattled successr with an appeal for more loyaly than he himself had wherin office.

Major, as reported in The Indepndent on Saturday, spent last wek on holiday with Chris · 🔄 Patte at the Spanish home of Trista Garel Jones, who laughd off suggestions that it was a plotting meeting.

The former prime minister will ive his backing to Mr Hage on the first day of the confrence, minutes before the results are announced of the

Tory arty membership ballot. Tie ballot is expected to endors Mr Hague's leadership. in site of protests by Alan in Blackpool.

Clark and others that the leadership question is being mixed up with a request for a mandate for reforming the structure of the party. Mr Hague's keynote leadership address will be the finale of the conference on Friday, as usual.

Mr Hague yesterday repeated the "back me or sack me" threat which he has made from the outset of his leadership, in the clear belief that it will be a forgone conclusion. It could backfire if the enfeebled party organisation produces a low turnout for the ballot. Some ballot forms are being returned marked "de-

The Tory leader's ultimatum to the party's grassroots activists provoked a rush of bets that he will be ousted. Bookmakers William Hill yesterday were taking bets on other potential leaders, notably party vicesultif a ballot on Mr Hague's chairman and rising star Archie Norman, the former Asda boss, who is quoted at 20/1.

Michael Portillo, the former Secretary of State for Defence who lost his seat at the General Election and former party chairman, and Mr Patten, the former Hong Kong governor, are the two other favouriles.

"If Mr Hague finds himself under pressure at the party conference we may have to open a full book on Mr Hague's successor," a spokesman for William Hill said.

The odds against Mr Hague remaining as leader were being quoted as he resumed his national "listening" tour with a visit to East Anglia ahead of next month's party conference

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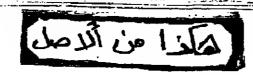
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WE ALL RESPOND TO A LETTER.





I'd love to go to bed with you, but don't expect to sleep

Snoring is one of the most anti-social human habits, and one which embarrassed women sufferers are particularly reluctant to discuss. Monique Roffey describes its effect on her love life - and reveals the desperate lengths that she has resorted to.

I have a female beauty problem which I'm embarrassed about and ashamed of. It's got so bad that it's been (quite literally) keeping me awake at night.

l snore. Don't laugh - it's hell. Ranking up there with facial hair, flatulence and foot fungus, it's one of those tragic afflictions that some women do have - though they're supposed to happen only to men.

And when I say snore, 1 mean snore. No, not prétty snuffles, or a mere oocturnal wheeze. I snore like a bag of potatoes. Or a train - or a comhine harvester. I snore like a horse, or a hear.

"Actually it's more like a pig." said one friend who had the misfortune to share a room with me on holiday, An old hoyfriend of mine use to snore like a pig, and I know how that snunds; the hedelothes hillowed. Is that really me? Apparently so.

Humiliating incidents are numerous. There's the time I woke up to find the hand of the lovely man I was sleeping with hovering above my oose? (In his much disturbed sleep, he was on the communal joke. desperately trying to snuff me out.) Or was it the time I kept eight complete strangers awake, while moored to the banks of the Nile on a felucca? While the others managed to stuff cotton wool in their ears and hunker down to some kind of snatched shut-eye, the man I was sleeping oext to (think young Robert de Niro) stayed up all night with his friend, laughing at me.

'Man, it was bad," he said the next morning, letting me in I've begun to get evasive about to bed with me, someooe he



Not being able to sleep beside the man of her dreams is proving a nightmare for snorer Monique Roffey

"How bad?" I asked. "You scared away the fish," he said, smirking. Looking into his handsome green eyes, I felt every ounce of sexual attractiveness drain from my

Now I'm self-conscious about it, and it's started seriously to affect my life. Well, my love life. While I doo't have a regular Mr Right, I'm still out there dating the Mr Maybes. And because of my problem, half sasquatch. A man may go

sex. I'm too shy and too proud to snore in front of a man. There are some things that men don't want to know women do - such as changing a tampon and shaving legs in the bath. Snoring like a pig is one of them. While Cinderella gets to turn into a pumpkin, there's no fairy tale around in

Charming, turns into a hog. I

feel like a freak: half woman,

the night - shazam! - just as in some hiblical movie, she brings the furniture down around the bed. It's awful. In the past I've used all kinds of tricks to hide my secret: adopting "fake sleep" positions until the other person is asleep (and himself snoring). which the pretty young waif (me), in her search for Prince running away after sex, making

thinks is a perfectly oormal-

looking woman, then, during

all night, disappearing mysteriously into another room. But the problem doesn't flatmates (and their frieods).

the man leave, keeping him up

just crop up around sex and men. It's something I don't want anyone to witness - at any time. I woo't even have an afternoon snooze on the sofa if I think there's anyone else around. So attuned am I to "it" now, that when I think I'm drifting off, even around family and friends, I can sometimes eveo hear myself slip into that first deep, resounding snore and manage to wake myself up. Though this doesn't always work. I've ofteo woken up to

standing around laughing at me. So for now I sleep only at night - and alone. There's oo other solution. I could have surgery, but surgery is the reason why I snore so badly in the first place. Four past operations on my pose have left it in a bad way. And though oone of my bed partners has ever complained (because so far they've been fooled), until I meet Mr Right - the man who is going to love me for who I am (Sasquatch Girl) - Til sleep.

Snoring causes such distress that sufferers are resorting to surgery that may be neither helpful or necessary, writes Cherrill Hicks

At least one third of Britain's estimated ten million snorers are female. Women tend not to seek treatment however, often because they are too embarrassed -and also, specialists think, because their (male) partners sleep more soundly, and are less likely to complain. (Men are more prone to snoring, it is thought, because of their sex hormones: more of their body fat is around the neck).

Every so often, a "miracle cure" for snoring comes along, among them the "Halt-a-Snor". a mail-order device with a strap under the chin to stop the jaw falling open; a range of nasty electronic gadgets to wake the culprit up; and, from California, an electrode which, inserted into the soft palate, melts "snorecausing tissue". Most have only limited success

The latest treatment is a laser operation on the back of the throat which is performed under local anaesthetic and which can, it is claimed, eliminate the problem rapidly, permanently and almost painlessly. The operation, called "revolutionary" in the hlurb, is being heavily promoted by the private health sector; both the Harley Medical Group (which has designated this week National No Snoring Week), and Bupa, which runs a snore clinic at its hospital in Manchester, claim it . has a cure rate of 80 to 90 per cent, with "almost everyone" re-

porting some improvement. In fact, this operation (which costs about £700 done privately) is not that new. Called Laser Assisted Uvula Palatoplasty, or LAUP, it was developed by a French doctor, Yves Kamani, in the 1980s, caught oo initially in Europe and the US but has been available in some NHS units for two or three years. The laser is used to shorten an over-

ly long soft palate and trim the uvula, the small fles protuberance which hangdown from the soft palate: theim is to unblock the airways id out out the vibrations which ause snoring. No controlled nical trials have been done tovaluare LAUP, or to back up to success rates quoted. Somehes it works only temporarily.

Although the only sidellect of LAUP is described as some throat", post-operativepain can be considerable. Accding to one sleep specialist, see patients found swallowing gony for about a week afterirds, even with painkillers.

Laser treatment for spring can be carried out in atpatients, taking about 20 mutes. It does not work for everone. because not all snoring is used by vibrations of the soft plate alone. Snoring occurs whethe muscles that hold the troat open relax during sleep an disturb the air flow; tongue;nnsils and adenoids may be the

Snoring may also be onnected to obstructive sep apnoea, a potentially serius breathing disorder which realis in excessive daytime sleepiess. Heavy, habitual snoring shuld be properly investigated an assessed by a sleep specialis

Losing weight, avoidin alcohol and cigarettes cat all help; a dental splint wich keeps the throat open at ight is a common first line of teatment. In many cases whre a couple seek help, the prolem is emotional; someone wh has tolerated a partner's snoring for years may suddenly find unbearable if the relationships in

Those who do not will to abandon their mate to the pare room could try a traditional remedy, although it souns almost as cruel; sew a tennihall into the back of her (or his pyjamas (if they are worn). Jiust might deter her from sleoing . on her back, and thus preent her jaw from dropping upn.

Chemill Fcks



DR PHIL HAMMOND

A few deaths may be the price we'll have to pay for saving resources

"Dear Dr Hammond,

Having skimmed over your column for some mooths now, I've noticed that you have an alarming tendency towards nihilism.

"In any organisation as large as the health service, you are going to get a few unproven treatments and bad decisions, some poor communication and callous disregard for human existence. There may even be some doctors who coerce their NHS patients into going private. But in 40 years as a GP I can honestly say that the scoundrels are very much in the minority. The vast majority of health care professionals are well-intentioned folk who give

their all in very difficult circumstances. "If you want to carp, have a go nt the politicians and lawyers who are destroying the NHS, and nut those who have to work

"You may be too young to remember Bing Crosby, but you would do well to heed his lyrics: "You've got to ACCENT-TCHU-ATE the POSITIVE. Eliminate the ute to Crosby is tucked away on page 217.

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Yours sincerely. Dr M Dingle

"PS And do try to reflect the public mood. If people really are as disaffected with the NHS as you suggest, why do I have 200 of the buggers coming into my waiting-room

This letter - with its invitation to try the Crosby Method - arrived on the same day as my copy of Staying Sane, Dr Raj Persaud's "passionately argued, impeccably researched, change the way you think about your mind" book.

Had it arrived the day before, I might well have saved myself £17.99, because it seems to be saving much the same thing. but without the references. Raj's closest trib-

negative." So why not drop the so-called Found it yet? Join hands with me and repeat "To stop my daily RANTS against myself, I must kill my ANTS." (Automatic Negative Thoughts). On reflection, I think Bing's version just shades it - or rather, the version written for him and the Andrews Sisters by Arlen, Mercer and Morris. None of them were psychiatrists. They didn't even clean the floors at the Maudsley. So how could three humble songwriters develop such a sophisticated theory of staying sane 40 years in advance of Raj? Makes you

> We're straying into Francis Wheen territory here. Francis off-loaded a few of his ANTs about Raj in The Guardian - most pertinently, that he appeared to be paid a lot of money for stating the obvious - but, in my new-found positive mood, I think he was being a little unfair. Part of the reason why Raj is so uniquitous is that he can do what most consultants can't - translate

medspeak into plain English. Anthony Clare is also very good at this, can't all get in. It's even been suggested that knows it.

although he perhaps appeals to a slightly those who say they'll kill themseves more sophisticated audience. And Oliver James, too, can rake in a broad audieoce (although his honest appraisal of "Dianahysteria" may have knocked a chunk out of his popularity).

In short, psychiatry and clinical psychology are served with good media communicators at the moment. Less certain is whether what they say or write makes a

Rai's book contains "proven ways to strengthen your mind and reduce your vulnerability to distress - for good" and I genuinely hope it does help its readers to stay sane. This isn't just because I'm discussing a deal with the same publisher, but because I find it very hard to accentuate the positive side of psychiatric services in the UK. Resources are so stretched that urgent admission to hospital seems possible only for those who are psychotic and in danger of killing themselves or others. Even then, they

shouldn't all be admitted, because fiv of them do. A few deaths may be a priceve'll have to pay for saving resources.

For the great majority of those wit less severe illness, provision is patchy tononexistent. Indeed, psychological distrss is so badly handled that it's diverted toshysical specialists. Sixty per cent of a nurologist's referral case load is tesion headache; 50 per cent of a gynaecolgist's is pelvic pain; 80 per cent of a astroenterologist's is irritable bowel; 80 pc cent of coronary artery investigations arccompletely normal.

Many of the sufferers have phsical manifestations of psychological distres, but there isn't the training, organisation time or resources to keep people away from the disastrous slope of unnecessary physical investigations. In essence, if you've got psychological problems in the UK, yu're better off treating yourself. And DrRaj

VITAL SIGNS

Mum-friendly Birth has become an over-

medicalised experience for most women which deprives them of full participation in one of the most significant events in their lives, according to a charity.

The Association for Improvements in Maternity Services says women are being falsely reassured about the safety of procedures including epidurals. caesarians and foetal monitoring. It says the "cascade of interventions", including apparently harmless ones such as breaking the waters, can lead to other barmful interventions.

Calling for the development of the motherfriendly hospital, it says women never forget birth experiences: while kindness and compassion stay in the memory so do cruelty, technocratic arrogance and coercioo.

No room

More patients were admitted to hospital last year than ever before - and more beds were closed. The number of admissions rose I per cent between 1995-96 and 1996-97 from

11.2 to 11.3 million (finished amount of ionising radiation consultant episodes), while applied is of secondary the number of beds fell 3.6 per cent from 206,000 to 199,000. Bed use increased Dr Terry Roberts, former with almost 40 patients treat-ed in each bed over the year. head of microhiology at tha

Institute of Food Research in Overall, more than four nut Reading, who chaired a of five NHS beds was occumeeting on food irradiation jointly organised by the WHO, the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation and US scientists have reported the International Atomic what is believed to be the first Energy Agency said: "We are quite satisfied with existing case of transmisssion of the Aids virus by "deep kissing." scientific evidence that higher A 20 year old man; who had doses of radiation can provide never had sex, apparently was wholesome, nutritious and infected from a bite on his lip safe food," he said. The during a prolonged kiss. It is techniques is used in 30 known that saliva can carry countries including the UK. the virus but until now there

Last gasp 16 to 24 year olds smoke more than any other age group. A third are regular smokers and three oot of four of these smoke more than 10 cigarettes a day, according to the Health Education Authority.

Many college students said they regarded smoking as part of their traditional 'reckless and carefree" student image and reckoned they would give up when they left college.

Jeremy Laurance

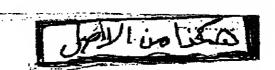
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said although it could not he

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17/FEATURES

Chris Patten is a man without a job. The Conservatives are a party in pain. Are these two facts somehow related? Louise Jury considers his present and his future

We all remember the sight of Chris Patten, a respected, symnathetic, clever man weeping as the Union Flag came down over Hong Kong; he had come to the end of an impossible job at which, by most people's lights, he had acquitted himself well; we remember his charming wife and three beautiful daughters standing to attention and dressed to kill in designer minidresses; a family fine enough to set against the Blairs

This week, in William Hague's time of trouble, they have come into the minds of many Tories. And, with this paper's jolly tale of Mr and Mrs Patten holidaying with the Majors at the home of the Conservative arch-plotter Tristan Garel-Jones in Spain to titillate them, he is much in their thoughts. The question is whether the Tory party and its leadership are in his.

One who observed him closely in Hong Kong said he was "completely exhausted" when he left and "pretty fed up". His parting words in Hong Kong were "I'm going to France - to write a book, to tend to my garden and to recharge my batteries, which are starting to splutter damply like an old car on a cold wet

And that is exactly what he has been doing. With Lavender, his wife of 26 years, he retired to the beautiful old stone farmhouse they bought two years ago at St Martin-Languepie near Albi, the hirthplace of Toulouse-Lautrec, in the south.

When a month or so later, a journalist negotiated the wildnemess near the hideaway to grah a word, Lavender politely and patiently explained that her husband was doing the nrdinary job of shopping at the supermarket. "He just wants to be left alone," she said. And so he has been. He has laid flagstones to create a garden dining patio, planted fruit trees and dug up nettles. Undoubtedly, as a keen tennis player - and auxious weight-watcher - he will have



Governor, garden, pastures new

itics and Lavender, a barrister much hunting, they bought an who had her own successful attractive Victorian threefamily practice before they left. is also thought to have her reservations. Yet he did leave the prospect open when he turned down a peerage in Major's resignation honours.

And he has been writing his book nn Hnng Kong and Asia for which the publishers HarperCollins paid a rumoured £100,000 advance.

Whatever his wing of the Conservative Party may wish, he is not a man who needs to hurry. His writing could take at least until the end of the year. He was paid £238,000 in his final years in Hong Kong with £55,000 a year expenses. He left nffice with a £275,000 tax-free gratuity and, it might be assumed, is not desperate for a new job yet.

But at some point he and Lavender will return to Britain, not to the converted Methodist heen making the most of his chapel which was their home in new court. He is thought to be Bath when that was his con-

storey six-bedroom house with a large garden in Barnes, a desirable part of south-west Londnn with easy access to Westminster. His youngest daughter, Alice, 17, is due to begin reading languages at Camhridge University. His elder daughters, Kate, 24, and Laura. 22 both work in the media. Kate in television for Esther Rantzen, Laura as a beauty assistant for the glossy magazine

Will they find themselves the daughters of a man who has set his cap at the Conservative Party in the hope of becoming Prime Minister? "He's quite fastidious about not wanting to be parachuted back in with a byelection," said one insider. Though the seats of John Major and Michael Heseltine have been mentinned as possibilities. "He wouldn't want anyone to stand down for tum.

Harpers and Queen.



A match for the Blairs? Chris Patten in his garden in France and with daughters Main picture: P Parrot/Sygma

flict and facing a government with a massive majnrity, is not the most attractive proposition for a man who has other

"The thing about Patten," says one who knows him well, "is he does believe that hig jobs are important. He might well want to be Prime Minister but in a choice between waiting in oppositing for inter terms and hesitant about a return to pol- stituency but to London. After ty, at this moment, riven by con- in Europe, there's no doubt overseas development minister pulitics would become in him.

which he would prefer." His name, like Kenneth Clarke's, has been mooted as a potential successor in Jacques Santer, though he would have to become a European commis-

sioner first. Patten gave his all to his post in Hong Kong and the observer thinks Patten enjoyed the international stage. "If he had his way, ne w

was the best job he had at Westminster. But he knows the big ones are largely in the gift of the government of the day and he's not flavour of the month with them."

Patten must have thought when he went to Hong Kong that he was leaving his political career behind him, but the Tory world he left was very different from the one he would return in. His friend John Maior was Prime Minister then and the Labour Party had hardly started to shake itself into newness. But politics would never have been far from his thoughts. He is at heart a politician, as he has been since stu-

"He's got the politics bug," says an insider whn watched him closely throughout his time in Hinng Kong. "All the time he was here he was immensely interested in the minutiae of British politics." He could not And the Conservative Par- having something like a hig job ternational job - he thought cently how interested British

Searching for my dad, I found Austin Powers

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and seember is

were kind of famous hecause they had the British accent.

I took dancing lessons when I was little. There was an English pub show called The Pig And Whistle on Canadian TV, where everyone sang, "Come in/To the 1956, from Liverpool, and 1 Pig and Whistle/Come in/And grew up in a very English house- have a laugh". There was hold. I throught I was related to cheeky chappiness and chimney the Beatles growing up, be- sweep dancers. I remember seeing that as a kid and thinklike the Beatles. My parents ing, "Wow, I wanna be that."

py toes". They used to torture contract for Saturday Night Live me mercilessly. Do you do "spit was up - you have a six-year suck" here? You get somebody contract. Wayne's World 2 was and pin them down and spit ...? That's our contribution to cul- done real well - I had lots of ofture. Insulin, green ink, the cobalt bomh, and spit-suck. hrother gets killed in a car ac-And various strains of rust-resistant wheat. That's Canada.

Ours was a Scouse bouse. Across the street was my friend and his parents were from Go- all happening together. van - they had Billy Connolly the same in Liverpool, they have instincts - fight fight, love love love, sing.

up if Monty Python or an Ealing comedy or something was on, on a school night. I didn't go to first period for the last five years of high school, because toast, and watch whatever.

dad was - like, when you're in a casino, you play with chips, so you don't think it's real money and therefore you don't mind going down \$400 in a haul. The week weren't real either until I and in a tiny apartment in New went home. I did my laundry Ynrk - paying lots of money. every Sunday in Toronto, and my dad would say: "What did you do this week?" And I would say "blah blah blah" and it em Irish, part Southern Irish, would seem real.

started to see his personality leave his body. His personality left his body completely the year A really nice guy from the Roy-movies I'd be only too happybefore he died. It was an insid- al Engineers sent me my dad's inusly slow process. And at the war record. So I went to places on Saturday Night Live and came to terms with his death. making Wayne's World. My father passed away in '91. My so close to him - he was so funheart was broken. I worked my, he was very silly. His two ma-

My brothers called me "tip- steadily for two years. Then my jor sayings, that I think are una Number One movie and it crappy that would happen, he fers. At the same time my wife's cident and both her sets of grandparents die. So all the time it's like Spielberg calls or somehody you love has died. It was

I spoke to Bill Murray, who and all that stuff in their house. hosted one of the last shows be-New Year's Eve it was a lot of fore I left. He said he'd taken I Love U. I Love U, but As soon two years off. He'd gone to U take my money I'll kill U. It's France to the Sorbonne, because his mother had died and he was emotionally incapacitaied. He told me about that, I was really close to my dad. and I said, "Well, what's my Literally my dad would wake us equivalent of studying at the Sorbonne?" And I thought, "Well, I'll take a year off and I'll take ice hockey lessons."

So I took what's known as power skating lessons from we'd all sit down at the televi- nine to five every Wednesday, sion late. Drink tea, and eat and played pick-up hockey two times a week with animators The other thing about my and firemen on disability and stuff. That's what I did, and I read books and I went and saw movies. We bought a house, we backed off, we nested. Before then, my wife and I were living things that happened during my in suitcases in hotel rooms in LA

During my year off, I looked into the whole deal of my ancestry, part Scottish, part Northand England, I came to Liver-When he got Alzheimer's I pool and saw where my dad pop culture and comedy. If went to school. I saw where he signed on the Territorial Army. tures had to be Austin Powers

I think at a certain point I got

dervalued, were, "Everything is gonna be okay" and "Let's go have some fun." So anything would be like, "You know, everything's gonna be okay, let's go have some fun." And I think those are two really important things, but when that dies out and you're left by yourself, and you're so busy, and then all of a sudden you're a famous person ... well, it's weird.

My dad sold encyclopaedias the Encyclopaedia Britannica. I wear my dad's encyclopaediasalesman-of-the-year ring, from 1967, which was my wedding ring, because he couldn't come. He died before my wedding.

A year and a half ago I was

driving home from hockey prac-

tice and "The Look of Love" by Bust Bacharach came on the radio and that spoke to my heart. I'm a hig Burt fan. It just reminded me nf Casino Royale and that whole era, and I just started fooling around with English accents: "Yeah, hut let's go in the back and shazag." Pretending I was taking photographs of my-wife: "Give it to me, baby, show me shoulder, love it, yeah." I did that for three days to make my wife laugh. My wife's from Queens, she's quite blunt, and she said: "That's really funny, now shaddap." She said I should write it down, so I wrote a script in three weeks, and it became Austin Powers. The movie is a tribute to my dad, and to the whole British someone said my next 1,000 pic-I had a blast doing it.

Taking that year off proved same time that's happening I'm he was stationed. I just really in he the smartest thing I ever did, and in two years I plan to -take another five mouths off.

Interview by Richard Tyrell

DEAR HANDBAG

What is a Tory prime minister without a handbag?

Ruth Picardie, who died yesterday, age 33, wrote extensively and wittily on the features pages of 'The Independent'. In October 1993 a TV documentary revealed to her what Thatcher had and Major lacked

So farewell then, trusted friend Your week has been chock-full of photo ops. You have starred in numerous newspaper headlines. Last night you appeared on Thatcher: The Downing Street Years. These are the poignant, dying embers of your career. But you will not be forgotten.

· It is true - to quote another famous Lady, one created by Oscar Wilde - you were only a handbag. You didn't come from the house of Chanel but from British faithfuls, Aquascutum or Rayne. You were made unt from ostrich or boz constrictor but from boring. basic cow. And you didn't respond to the whims of fashion. In the day, you were a black or navy structured bag with two handles. In the evening you were a small pochette in black velvet, silver or gold (Denis does like a bit of glitter, your owner confessed in 1986).

You were never a star, always one of a team. Even the black patent, the favourite, was frequently replaced. According to Cynthia Crawford, your owner's PA: "We always have half a dozen on the go. They get quite a hashing."

. You also got a bashing from the press. You became a verb meaning to nag, to hully, to shout down, to sack. Last year the speaker of the Irish Dail banned the expression on

the grounds that it was unparliamentary. But, dear handbag, do not despair. Ynu had many fans. A suitcase retailer from Bushey Heath bought you (the beige you) for £2,000 at an auction for Capital Radio's Help a London Child. Your owner loved you deeply, even though she doesn't give you an index entry in her memoirs. Like Denis, you were a rock to her; mute and loval, Ynu were vital to her as a symbol, a constant reminder that the Thatcher revolution was, in the end, the good housekeeping learnt by a grocer's daughter. Your owner's voice got deeper, her policies mugher, hut you remained reminding the world that the boss was a lady.

You were, of course, a Freudian's dream. You were variously described as lethal (The Sun), loaded (Daily Mirror), long-range (The Independent) and steel-reinforced (Econo-Once, you were pump action (The Guardian).

But, like all handbags, you were also a hig, scary vagina with teeth. The nation was obsessed by what was inside you. Never mind lipstick; at various times you were rumoured to contain: (a) the 1942 Beveridge report on social insurance; (b) the 1944 White Paper on Employment; and (c) Abraham Lincoln's 1863 Gettysburg Address. A handbag? You were the world's first political Tardis.

Withnut you, British political life is less vivid. John Major, like most British men, is fearful about the link between handbags and homosexuality. And so he is without a metaphor. Lady Thatcher herself, in a brave effort to prop up her successor's leadership. urged him to use a cricket bat at an EC summit. The metaphor did not take off. What is a polincian without a metaphor? What is a prime minister without a handbag?



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'I recorded it all as history unfolding, believing that it could never happen again'

Biafra, Bangladesh, Vietnam: name any of the world's trajedies of the past 20 years, and likely as not Don McCullin broke the news. But what are we to make of these images when taken off the front page and pinned up in a gallery? By Tom Lubbock

Don McCullin's pictures are not what they were. Take the picture on this page. When it first appeared in print, it was an immediate bulletin from the world, an urgent appeal crying out of its emergency, designed to appal and to baffle the conscience of its original viewers. And today it's different. It's not news, it's art. Not, of course, that such a photo couldn't be taken somewhere in the contemporary world, but this one wasn't, it's a "classic" image, a Don Me-Cullin picture, an example of an œutre. It urges nothing. It's become partly a historical document, and partly a fixed emblem, reflecting a timeless and universal theme: human suffering.

There are about 200 pictures in the Barhican's McCullin retrospective, "Sleeping with Ghosis". The majority represent his 20 years working as a photojournalist, from the mid-Sixties to the mid-Eighties, on assignments to the world's disaster areas. Cyprus, Biafra, Londonderry, Bangladesh, Vietnam, Cambodia, Beirut: this is Mc-Cullin's roster, and the exhibition's, all those place-names that have become general names for crisis and tragedy. And all Me-Cullin's most powerful shots are here: the Cypriot widow caught in a convulsion of grief, the young Biafran mother with a baby sucking her withered breast, the sticklegged Biafran albino boy, the dumb shellshocked G1, the abandoned Bangladeshi haby crying in the road - the images which have put a memorable face to suffering for this generation.

it, too much like art. Praising the pictures' power and memorability, don't we treat the subject as if it were only a contribution to that power? Don't we risk substituting the photographer's vision, the photographer's face", for the faces he witnessed? Shouldn't the claims of the subject come first? The distinction isn't so easy to make. It was McCullin's camera, his professional vocation and his personal courage that helped to make those names. And if his own name became in its time a by-word, his presence a guarantee, of a situation's urgency and gravity, then McCullin very largely created his subject. Few photographers before him had brought this news so forcefully and immediately. The proper question is: what kind of news was it, and is it?

Looking back, McCullin himself has drawn a desperate lesson: "I recorded it all as history unfolding, believing that this could never happen again, hut it has and it will. I am under no illusions now. Humanity will go on suffering to the end of time." The statement is quoted on a large wall-caption in the exhibition, and thus given a kind of summary authority. And it's true that, when seen all together, in retrospect, in an art gallery, this is the lesson that the pictures tend to bear. As you go round the show, from one catastrophe to another, human suffering looks like something that keeps on happening. Each picture is one more updating verification of this permanent, proverbial truth. That's its "news".

At the same time, this lesson must seem too proverbial, too general, too accepting, too near to the churchman who's ever ready with a topical crisis prayer ("We think especially at this time of the people of Bosnia and Rwanda...") and never daunted by the way each year the dotted line can be filled with some new name. The kind of suffering McCullin bore witness to, it wasn't just suffering, It had its causes; it wasn't just bumanity either, it was particular sections of humanity. And even if humanity will go on But this seems the wrong way of putting suffering to the end of time, that hardly

diminishes an obligation to relieve it, prevent it, question lt, protest against it. A sense of that obligation was surely what the pictures were first designed to awaken

Not entirely. There is a split here, which runs through McCullin's work. His images are torn between two modes of address -

between shock and contemplation. Nor is this merely the work of time or the effect of seeing them in a gallery (reportage becoming art, the contemporary passing). The photos had this "contemplative" aspect from the start: at odds with their urgent appeals, but a function of them too.

The paradox is almost inherent. To communicate suffering most directly, one must put a face to it, concentrate on im- . up, in the midst of things, on individuals. But not exactly on individuals: the agony envelops everything. There's little to indicate lives beyond the immediate circumstances or the ahnormality of these circumstances. His subjects are identified with their fate. His strongest pictures use a kind of allegorical portraiture. The subjects acknowledge the camera, stand cen-

tred, half pose for it. This alleviates any feeling of voyeurism, of images stolen. It confers a dignity on degradation. But it also makes the people seem to present and perform their suffering for us, to become its living symbols, personifications of hunger, grief, violation, endurance.

Cullin finds modern Pietas, Martyrs showmediate victims; and thus concentrate on them in compositions of great solidity and fixed tableaux. He prints them in grave, dark textures that fuse the sight witnessed on to the picture surface. And all these devices put out of mind the chanciness and the partialness of the camera's relation to the world, a world whose causes and circumstances aren't and often can't be photographed. They make the camera's glimpses look like they were always meant (0171-382 7105)

Putting a memorable face to suffering: 'Refugee from East Pakistan on the Indian border @ Don McCullin

to be images, and they make the images look complete in themselves.

This is what gives his photos their lasting power, but it's also what gave them their immediate effect. They appealed through speaking a permanent language of torment and pathos. Or rather: they filled old pictures with new realities, gave them the jolt of news. But the forms remain religious, the types of a world-view in which suffer-

So, as you go round this exhibition, you fall into a steady nttitude that seems quite natural. Not indifferent, not flinching, not exactly consuming it, hut not protesting against it either; above all, not wishing it otherwise: you simply contemplate it, trying to absorb it, to take its measure, as something well-known hut right to be dwelt on. It is a kind of wonder - and of course there's a way in which these horrors and catastrophes can become world-wonders - with, all the while, a troubling consciousness that this attitude is deeply wrong.

There isn't an obvious means of resolving this split perspective. It seems pointless to accuse McCullin of "aestheticising" suffering, or making a "spectacle" of it. True, even within the limits of what photography can show about the world, he might have worked differently, made images that looked less inevitable. And true. there does seem something mad about us viewers giving our solemn attention to a gallery of past horrors which by definition we can do nothing about, when present horrors might equally fill these walls. What should we say: that McCullin's work, having done its job, or not done its job, ought simply to be put away? That keeping it on view is actually dangerous, because it can now only dull the conscience, by making such outrages seem familiar and expected, by establishing a genre of image-andresponse that all new photographs of new outrages will settle into in their turn?

Perhaps all true. But McCullin's pictures tell a truth too. Not necessarily that hu-In the chaos of misery and conflict, Mc- manity will suffer to the end of time, but that some kinds of suffering, in their exing their wounds, Dead Christs. He holds tremity and absoluteness, can only be known and contemplated - and that in this suffering as such. McCullin's vision is close-solemnity, which establish their instants as sense there's nothing to be done about them. It is a quasi-religious truth, and there's nothing to be done with it either, not the whole truth, a truth very liable to comfortable corruption, a truth which the arts are all too good at telling. But still, Mc-Cullin's work should be praised for it though not too loudly or eagerly.

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LONDON GALLERIES RICHARD INGLEBY

Art houses join force to give prints a better image

A Century of European Prints

Printmaking, for some reason that no one can ever quite explain, is very rarely given as much critical attention as the other arts.

It tends to be viewed as a secondary activity; something that painters and sculptors do when they're not painting or sculpting, but not really worth considering in its own right. Artists disagree of course, as do print dealers, and for the next month six London galleries specialising in prints have joined forces in the hope that a clutch of exhibitions will succeed where so often a single show has failed.

The exhibitions, grouped under the title "A Century of European Prints", start with the years 1890-1935 at The Fine Art Society in New Bond Street, where the emphasis of the show is firmly on artists as expert printmakers, rather than trawling through the century's most glittering careers gathering works that happen to be prints.

Incvitably, though, there are many hig names here, from Picasso and Matisse to Klee and Kandinsky, but many of the best exhibits are by the British artists who spearheaded the etching revival which took place in this country in the Twenties.

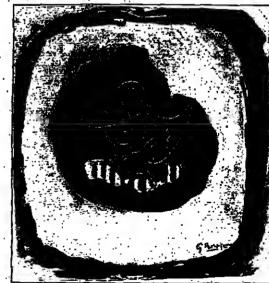
DY Cameron's fantastically solemn landscape Ben Ledi is one of the great images of its

time and, a little earlier, Nevinson's From an Office Window is a match for any of his Conni-

nental colleagues. At Lumley Cazalet in Davies Street, the years 1925-1970 have a more determinedly European feel. There's lots of Picasso, the only artist to make it into all six venues, and Chagall, who, as ever, looks a hit will o' the wisp - he needs a more substantial medium. On the evidence here Matisse is also a disappointing printmaker. His odalisques and girls on flowered divans are styl-ish enough, but they look more like mechanically reproduced drawings than images which set out to be lithographs,

Braque fares rather better: his little swan. Le Cygne, 1947, worked over with black and white and grey gouache is one of the stars of the Lumley Cazalet selection, as is a later over a green square. Another Braque bird appears in William Weston's selection of prints from the same period, along with more Matisse, Chagall, Picasso and a number of less expected images including Magritte's splendidly surreal The Green Eye.

More surprising still is the selection at the Mercury Gallery in Cork Street, where a very different exhibition concentrates on the likes of Pierre Alechinsky, Jacques Ducet and Johnny Friedlaender, little known members of a post-war



Taking flight: Georges Braque's Le Cygne, 1947

avant-garde. Alongside these British artists, including linocuts by Sybil Andrews and Cyril Power and a fine lithograph, Cornish Harbour, by William Scott, one of the best printmakers to work in this country since the Second World War, but surprisingly given only this single image in the galleries.

Next door to the Mercury Gallery at Alan Cristea, space is at an even greater premium lithograph of a bird silhouetted as the story is brought up to date from 1960 to 1997. Picasso and Braque are squeezed in again, next to a large Flowering Palm by Howard Hodgkin and a nude by Colin Self, the marks made by rolling a naked model across the etching plate. Beuys, Baselitz and Tapies are shown by a single work apiece, although there are three of Naum Gabo's elegantly stripped-down studies of form and space, and two wonderfully simple abstractions by the

Spaniard Eduardo Chillada. The contemporaries contimue at Marlborough Graph-

ics in Albemarle Street with a are more familiar images by : selection that includes Eduardo Paolozzi's complex woodcuts from his 1975 Charles Rennie Mackintosh suite, and two sombre but rather beautiful etchings by Anish Kapoor. Frank Auerbach's etched head of Lucian Freud is one of the best things here, with, of course, Freud himself. Two etchings by Therese Oulton, one of the galleries' younger artists, were awaited, literally hot off the press, the

day I was there. I'm not sure that I'd recommend seeing all six bits of the show at once, there's rather too much to take in, but it is an amhitious and largely successful project which should help to raise the profile of a too-often neglected art.

The Fine Art Society (0171-629 5116); Lumley Cazalet (0171-491 4767); Mercury Gallery (0171-734 7800); William Weston (0171-493 0722): Alan Cristea (0171-439 1866); Marlborough Graphics (0171-629). 5161). Until 10 October

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Viscour

Viscount Tonypandy

Thomas George Thomas. politician: born 29 January 1909; MP (Labour) for Cardiff Central 1945-50, Cardiff West 1950-83; PPS to Minister of Aviation 1951; member, Chairman's Panel, House of Commons 1951-64; Joint Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office 1964-66; Minister of State, Weish Office 1966-67; Minister of State, Commonwealth Office 1967-68; Secretary of State for Wales 1968-70; PC 1968; deputy Speaker and Chairman of Ways and Means, House of Commons 1964-76; Speaker of the House of Commons 1976-83; created 1983 Viscount Tonypandy; chairman, Bank of Wales 1985-91; died Cardiff

George Thomas was the first Speaker of the House of Commons to be known by the whole nation; known, and loved too. In 1978, two years after his appointment, the BBC began broadcasting Today in Parliament and its opening call "Order! Order!", declaimed in Thomas's rolling Rhondda accent, became a national catchphrase.

22 September 1997.

The hroadcast provided most people with their first experience of how Parliament is conducted and how Mr Speaker could exert his authority over rebellious MPs by goodhumoured and witty intervention. Within a week, a star was born. Speaker Thomas had become a national institution. And it was, of course, his gratifying apotheosis, after what he had wrongly felt to be a chequered political career.

George Thomas had been a lively, eloquent, busy MP in the 1945 parliament, a member of the committee chairmen's panel and first chairman of the Welsh Grand Committee, But, unlike his fellow member for Cardiff, James Callaghan, he was not offered even junior office. Nineteen years passed before he was rewarded and even then Harold Wilson could not fulfil his intention to make him Chairman of Ways and Means and deputy Speaker. The Labour majority was only five and a deputy Speaker renounces his party vote, a loss the — the evangelical skills. Such gifts

with a junior post at the Home Office and then as Minister of State at the Welsh Office. Later, as Minister of State at the Commonwealth Office, he enjoyed travelling the world and proved to be rather good at sorting out difficult African leaders whose temperament was more akin to that of the warm, voluble Welshman than to that of the average reserved Englishman. It was however in Thomas got an affirmative anthe United States, in Georgia. swer and became a most active

that a preacher said it all: "His face is white but his heart is as hlack as ours."

At last, in 1968, he entered the Cabinet as Secretary of State for Wales. It was a difficult time for the Welsh Office. Welsh nationalism was growing. particularly linguistic nationalism, and there was a tiny fringe threatening violence. Thomas, like many of his compatriots, had no enthusiasm for the nationalist cause. Moreover he had an English mother, and so had not nearly enough of the Welsh language, some people felt, for a man chosen to be the Welsh Secretary of State.

The tension grew as the in-

vestiture of the Prince of Wales drew closer. Thomas's life was constantly threatened. His bungalow was plastered with Welsh language posters and leaflets and he was attacked in religious newspapers and even from the pulpit. The Prince of Wales was due to spend a preparatory term at Aberystwyth and the academics feared that it would be dangerous. The Secretary of State had a heavy responsibility hut the police were confident enough and the Special Branch did all that was necessary around Caernarvon Castle for the ceremony itself.

When Labour was reelected in 1974. George Thomas was 65. He fully expected to return to the Welsh Office, and to the end of his days he resented the fact that Wilson and Callaghan had failed to warn him that the job was to go to a younger man, and one favoured by the Welsh speakers. The post selected for Thomas was again the Chairmanship of Ways and Means and deputy Speaker. Seeing his disappointment Wilson reminded him that Selwyn Lloyd must surely soon retire, although of course the Speakership cannot be the gift

of the Prime Minister. Mistrusted as he was by the nationalists, George Thomas was the archetypal middle-ofthe-road Welsh MP of his generation, formed by the fortifying curriculum of the valley, the pit, the chapel, the temperance movement, the Co-on. the trade union and the Labour Party. He had an expansive personality, a quick mind and all Government could not afford. are not exactly rare in Wales but Thomas was consoled first Thomas had them in profusion: above all, he had the ability to find the words, expressed in richly dramatic cadences, that

would move any audience. As a young man Thomas had delivered a free prayer in the presence of a collier who had perfected his English by learning off the entire Book of Psalms. "You should ask yourself tonight whether God wants you to be a preacher." he said.



'Order! Order!' George Thomas as Speaker of the House of Commons, 1976

eloquent even in the pulpit than on the political platform. I have remembered for years a sermon I heard him preach at the service held before the Labour Party Conference. His theme was the need to treat old people with love and respect as well as justice and he spoke sadly of the contempt he had seen them receive in a certain institution.

The chapel was in his blood. His mother was the daughter of a founder of the English Methodist Church in Tonypandy. Mam Thomas, as she became known, was a heroic woman. At 19, she married a Welsh-speaking miner of the same age and hefore they. reached 30 they had two daughters and three sons. The father took to the bottle, was violent in his cups, and to everyone's relief disappeared into the Army in 1914. Afterwards he went off

and acquired another family. The first family survived intact in a squalid basement as Mrs Thomas took in washing

Methodist lay preacher, more and sewed long into the night. The daughters went into service at 13 and George's elder brother down the pit at the same age. It was this that made it possihle for George to go to secondary school and then to take a teacher training course at Southampton. He remained a teacher until he was 36. Medically graded as "C", he was a part-time special policeman during the Second World War. This left him time to serve as

> of Teachers and become a runner-up for the presidency. When he was 16 his mother married again, and happily this time, to a winder at the pit and when he died George bought a hungalow in Cardiff and lived there with her. He took her with him on many engagements and Mam Thomas became the best-known mother in Wales. She was not a clinging type. She had been a fluent

public speaker and had chaired

her ward Labour Party and lo-

a member of the national ex-

ecutive of the National Union

cal co-operative women's guild. She lived to be over 90 and, when she died two months before her other remaining son, George underwent a crisis of religious faith.

It took him over a year to recover. His personality was a triumph over early adversity; yet not quite a complete triumph. Now and then there would emerge a hint of malice, a touch of envy or vanity, only shocking because they came from such an affable man.

On the day they re-opened the school at Aberfan, Thomas and I were riding in the last car of the motorcade. At each stop, the housewives surged around our car and cheered him. "I do wish the Prime Minister could see what they think of mel" Thomas said.

In his autobiography, Mr Speaker (1985), Thomas dismayed some old friends by writing with lack of charity about such favourite sons of the party as Foot, Callaghan and Cledwyn Hughes. Why did he

do it? He would later ask himself that question and say, "I wish I'd never written that old book." Was he influenced by the new candour of Crossman's diary? Was he persuaded by some editor to spice up his memoirs? The book did great damage to a man who had gone through life seeking love and soaking up adoration.

It was, however, a book of some historical importance. It revealed the attempts of backbenchers and party leaders to . influence the Speaker. It was, it is important to remember, the anguished parliament of 1978 in which he first served as Speaker. He was surprised to receive offensive letters from backbenchers complaining of not being called. He got up in the House, revealed these pressures and warned MPs that such conduct was counter-productive.

Another ploy of the bully boys, he said, was to create a scene if they had not been called after standing up two or three times, hoping that the Speaker would call them next time to avoid a repeat performance. After John Golding had devised the technique of putting down an open question to the Prime Minister which permitted a supplementary question to be asked on any subject, other MPs tried to apply it to other ministers. Speaker Thomas would not allow it, believing - rightly - that it would completely alter the nature of Question Time.

But the Speaker had to face a greater strain. Key people from Government and Opposition would come to sound out what his rulings would be on certain issues; sometimes they would say that a poor view would be taken if he ruled in a particular way. His response was to threaten resignation and to promise that he would explain from the back benches his reasons for doing so. An answer would then be given that nobody wanted to push him around. Some MPs who thought it right for the Speaker to reveal what goes on in general terms could not forgive him for mentioning names and

quoting private conversations. The controversy is covered amply in Michael Foot's book memoirs, Foot wrote to Thom- or two public engagements. as to say that publication of confidential conversations was a hreach of trust and could only do mjury to Parliament. Thomas replied, saying that his whole purpose in writing the book was because, like Foot, he was a believer in open government; in revealing the pressures the intention was to make things easier for his successors in the chair.

The subject was aired in the Times and Foot agreed that the book could not be compared

cause there was a difference between what a Cabinet minister engaged in party controversies may reveal and Mr Speaker, who is pledged to impartiality and independence. Yet Foot says that, although the book was "grotesquely mis-leading", Thomas was a very

good Speaker. He had to deal

with a House more narrowly

poised between the parties

than any of recent times, "Yet he kept his head from the start." The greatest hullahaloo came on the Aircraft and Shiphuilding Industries Bill. When after a long and bitter procedure the Government won by one vote, there was a suspicion that somebody had broken a pair. The Welsh began to sing the "Red Flag" and Michael Heseltine seized the mace. Thomas suspended the House for 20 minutes and on the resumption suspended it again until the following morning.

Thus the storm was stilled. In spite of these difficulties, the Speaker's popularity grew. He adored the ceremonial and people who were invited to the Speaker's House found the experience a delight. He was not just the host but also the animator of the party. He entertained the most eminent in the land and also many humble people from Wales, for whom it was the treat of a lifetime.

The Conservatives kept him as Speaker until 1983. Then he became Viscount Tonypandy. with a hereditary title. This was not appreciated in Wales -- although, since he had no beir, it did not matter very much. His coat of arms depicts an open Bible and a miner's lamp flanked by daffodils and the leek. The motto is old Welsh, Bid Ben Bid Bont, "Who would lead, let him be a hridge",

from the Mabinogion, George Thomas took his place, as a former Speaker should, on the cross-benches of the House of Lords. He suffered from cancer of the throat which then broke out elsewhere. After he collapsed at a party at Guildhall to celebrate his 80th birthday, we thought it would be the end. But a few days later, it became known that he was in a private nursing home Loyalists and Loners (1986). On in Wales, receiving the Prince reading an extract from the and Princess and fulfilling one - John Beavan

> George Thomas enjoyed an astonishing Indian summer in public life, living and making the cheerful best of it, as he out it, on "borrowed" time, writes Tam Dalyell.

He professed himself vastly amused that he had been granted these extra years, and deduced that the extension bestowed on him was proof that his Methodist Almighty had a

wicked sense of humour. How he would have chuckled benevoleraly, had he known that his obituarist John Beavan had predeceased him by three years.

As Speaker. Thomas was my least favourite of those under whom I have sat - Sir Harry Hylton-Foster. Dr Horace King, Lord Selwyn Lloyd, Lord Weatherill and Madam Speaker Betty Boothroyd. He was capricious and concerned to ingratiate himself to the Prime Minister. He abused the position of Speaker to suppress dissenting opinion on the Falklands War as he judged what was good for Britain; and his judgement coincided with that of Margaret Thatcher, (Some of us could not quite get it out of our minds that Thomas himself had been the Minister of State in the Commonwealth Office when relations with Argentina could have been resolved and weren't.)

No memoirs in recent years have generated such hurt and then incandescent anger among former friends, particularly MPs sitting for Welsh seats and Welsh Labour activists, as those of Mr Speaker Sir, the memoirs of Viscount Tonypandy. They said that they thought George had heen a friend and "then we discovered what he thought of us!" Nor did his endorsement of Sir James Goldsmith's political forays on the European issue endear him to many of his erstwhile colleagues. Though, in his last years, his British nationalism which had always been there. came out uninhibited.

The last time I chatted to Tonypandy -- he was a tremendous gossip - was outside St Margaret's, Westminster, following the memorial service for Wing Commander Grant Ferris, his long-serving deputy, in July. Tonypandy raised the subject of devolution and exposnulated - he always used his hands - that he was quite appalled. He hissed to Cardinal Basil Hume and me (the famous familiar voice of Mr Speaker had long gone); "I love that place" - he pointed to the Commons - "and I've given £100 to

the 'Vote No' campaign." At that moment, the government car which he was rightly given whenever he ventured out drew up. As he clambered into it. Tonypandy's last words to me were "Devolution abomination, I call it."

As a funeral eulogy speaker Tonypandy was much in demand and superb. Those who were there speak of his moving tribute to Wilson in the Scilly Isles speaking of how he burnt himself out in the service of his fellow countrymen. Tonypandy in his last decade did the same.

· John Beavan (Lord Ardwick) died 18 August 1994.

Ruth Picardie

Ruth Picardie, journalist: born Reading I May 1964; married 1994 Matt Seaton (one son, one daughter); died London 22 September 1997.

A few years ago, Ruth Picardie found a lump in her breast, which was diagnosed, after a hiopsy, as a benign tumour. In October 1996, when she returned to the hospital with a lump "the size of a golf-ball", she was told that, not only did she have breast cancer, but that it had spread to her lymph nodes.

Her chances, they said then, were 50:50. Ever the optimist, Picardie took the news on the chin; she was determined to live and, when she did not respond to chemotherapy, except to become very sick, she sought alternative treatments. But, within a few months, the cancer had spread to her bones, her liver, her lungs and her brain. The experts were unsure about which would get her first. "Great," she wrote after reading one of the many books full she did, under the banner "Be-

going to die. hut I'm going to go bonkers first."

Ruth Picardie hated euphemisms, and would not have wanted the facts of her illness to be swaddled in evasive cliché. As a journalist, and as a friend, her bonesty cut like a bot knife. She was always pushing the eovelope of what could be said, not out of prurience, but because she was one of the most voraciously curious peopie I have ever met. And she had a theory about everything. So she wrote about the in-

dignities of IVF treatment (after two and a half years of trying to have a baby, Picardie successfully underwent IVF and, in August 1995, gave birth to twins), the faddishness of diet gurus (she was an avowed foodie and chocaholic and worried about being fat), the politics of housework (a tidy person herself, she knew how cleaning was for some women a form of social and emotional control) and, in the last Observer articles

of contradictory advice. "I'm fore I say Goodbye", about tiving with a death sentence.

> She did all this with a lightness and sardonic wit that sometimes, especially towards the end, became terribly black and shockingly profound. As one of her friends put it, in her professional no less than her personal life, Ruth Picardie always had the courage to let herself be seen. At a time when it is fashionable for female journalists to go the full monty and expose every detail of their personal lives, Picardic took care to use her own experiences to scrutinise the absurdities and ironies of being "a postmodernist, post-feminist bahe of the Nincties".

In the Eighties, she had demonstrated against the US bombing of Libya and supported the miners' strike; as the decade came to an end, she realised she was a member of the last ideologically driven generation, and brought into her writing many of the questions that trouble this new age. She had the rare gift of making politics

breathe, and because she had such a sense of fun, and such a wide frame of reference, you found yourself reading

everything she wrote to the end. Picardie was also a generous and sensitive editor. Friends who worked with her early in her career, when she edited the film trade magazine the Producer, or worked at the shortlived women's magazine Mirabella, remember her as being direct and clear about what she wanted. In the 18 months that Picardie worked as an editor at the Independent, she was unfailingly encouraging, full of ideas and determined to get the best out of everybody. If you were down, she would dust you off and make you shine.

Though she loved to gossip and giggle, she never sank to malice, and in an industry where backstabbing, mild hysteria and one-upmanship are routine, she was a calm hand at the tiller. Her candour made some people curl, but they never became her enemies. Ruth Picardie met her husband, the freelance journalist lates. As well as a celebration Matt Seaton, as a teenager at of Ruth and Matt's life to-Cambridge University. (She was the first student from her school, Llanishen High in Cardiff, to get to Cambridge, where she read Anthropology at

King's.) Her friends thought of theirs as an exemplary relationship, not because it was without difficulties, but because they had managed to evolve together and be comfortable together. Their wedding, on a summer's day three years ago, was held in the garden of Matt's parents' house in Sussex. To the guests (which included her sister Justine, also a journalist, and

both of her parents, who had divorced long ago), sitting on hlankets on the lawn, it all seemed perfect. Ruth, in a white linen Nicole Farhi dress (even in the last weeks of her life, Ruth found the energy to go shopping: it was another of her passions), spoke simply and eloquently of her love for Matt, and her oldest friend gave a speech which ended with stylish cultured, knowing and Ruth's being pelted with choco-very witty - just what we want-

gether, they made it a celebration of their friendships, too.

Ruth believed that her IVF treatment had accelerated the cancer - and was angry that she had not been informed of the risks. But she said, her twins, Lola and Joe, were "the meaning of life". In her penultimate column for the Observer, she wrote of her sadness at not having a future, of not seeing them grow up and of not being remembered. "How," she asked, "do you write the definitive love letter to a partly imaginary

child?" She concluded by saying that "life will continue just fine". She was right, of course, but for all of us who were proud to love her it will be that hit less

In 1993 I began to notice the byline of a young freelance writer called Ruth Picardie. writes Hilly Janes. Her pieces were ed on the feature pages of the Independent.

In October that year both

colleagues and readers started

to enjoy her presence on the paper on a very regular basis. She wrote funny self-deprecating first-person pieces; acerbic hut never vitriolic commentary on the lastest fashion fads and cultural trends; interviews with writers, film and book reviews. When she became a mother, pregnancy, childbirth, parenthood all became the raw material that Ruth could hone into pieces that made you laugh, weep, groan and rage. And almost invariably to impossibly tight deadlines.

Not long after Ruth arrived she was asked at very short notice to stand in for Miles Kington - a challenge that even the most experienced journalists might shy away from But Ruth. still only 29, faced the task with aplomb and enthusiasm -- producing a series of brilliantly funny sketches on the mixed

pleasures of a family Christmas. By November 1994 she was



Picardie: no euphemisms

on the staff as an assistant features editor, while continuing to write. She left the paper in July 1995 to have her twins, but a few months later was writing again. as a freelance, and in summer 1996 she again became a regular contributor until this summer she became to ill to write.

Her last piece was to be about Daisy and Tom, the new children's store recently opened by Tim Waterstone. She would interview Waterstone and then visit the shop to do some fly-onthe wall colour writing. The interview she managed, but she never made it to the shop.

DEATHS

CRASTER: At Devizes Hospital, on 18 September 1997, after a short illness. John Nigel Shafto, agod 75 years. Much-loved father of Andrew, Much-loved father of Andrew, Alexandra and Alison. A toving grandfather. The funeral will take place at St. Mary's, Market Lovington, at 2.30pm on Wednesday 34 September. Flowers or donations in lieu, if desired, for Oxfam, may be sent to T. Gye & Son, 19 White Street, Market Lavimeton. Wilishire

BIRTHS. **MARRIAGES** & DEATHS

SLOSS: Margaret (néé Waison), of peacefully at home on 19 September 1997, leaving loving friends and famheld at SS Gregory and Augustine Church on Woodstock Road at 10.30am on Saturday 27 September. The mass will be followed by a reception at her home. In place of flowers, donations in her name may be made to Oxford Mind and/or the Samaritans,

Amountements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services. Wedding anniversaries, lu Memoriant may be telephoned in 0,171-293 2011 or faxed to 0,71-293 2010, and are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra).

Birthdays

Mr Toby Balding, racehorse trainer, 61: Mr Ray Charles, rhythm and blues singer, 67; Baroness David, former government whip, 84; Lord Feldman, chairman, Bener Business Opportunities, 71: Mr James Guinness, former deputy chairman, Guinness Peat, 73; Mr Julia Iglesias, musician, 54; Mr Richard Lambert, Editor, Financial Times, 53; Sir Gordon Linacre, President, Yorkshire

Post Newspapers, 77; Dr Brian Lloyd, chairman of directors, Oxford Gallery, 77; Mrs Genista McIntosh, incoming executive director, Royal National Theatre, 51; The Right Rev Michael Manktelow, former Bishop of Basingstoke, 70; Mr Larry Mize, golfer, 39; Mr Mickey Rooney, actor, 77; Mr Bruce Springsteen, singer and songwriter, 48; Mr Jeff Squire,

rugby player, 46; Sir Roger Toulson, High Court judge, 51; Admiral Sir

John Treacher, 73; Mr John Wilkin-

son MP 57; Mr Nicholas Witchell, evision news presenter, 44,

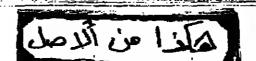
Anniversaries

Births: Euripides, playwright, 480 BC; Gafus Octavius, Augustus Cae-sar, first Roman Emperor, 63 BC; Karl Theodor Körner, poet, play-wright and patrint, 1791; Mary Elizabeth Coleridge, novelist and poet, 1861; Emma Magdalena Rosalia Marie Josepha Barbara, Baroness

Orczy, novelist, 1865; Walter Lipp-man, journalist and anthor, 1889. Deaths: Nicholas-François Mansart, architect, 1666; Prosper Merimée, novelist, 1870; William Wilkie Collins, novelist, 1889; Sigmund Freud, psyehoanalyst, 1939; Pabla Neruda, poet, 1973. On this day: the Greeks defeated the Persians at the Battle of Salamis, 480 BC; Johann Gottfried Galle discovered the planet Neptune, 1846; two awards for gallantry, the George Cross and the George

Medal, were instituted, 1940; Generat Juan Perón was re-elected president of Argentina, 1973. Today the Feast Day of Si Adamn; in o Eunan of topa and Saints Andrew. John, Peter and Antony.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS Changing of the Guard
The Hospital Cavalry Meaned Reci-



The euro is on its way and Blair must get off the fence



EDITOR: ANDREW MARK DEPUTY EDITOR: COLIN HUGHES. ADDRESS: I CANADA SQUARE. CANARY WHARF. LONDON E14 SDL TELEPHONE: 0171 293 2000 OR 0171 345 2000 FAX: 0171 293 2435 OR 0171-345 2435

Anybody who was asked would undoubtedly have predicted a strong showing by the Social Democrats in Hamburg's municipal elections at the weekend. The city is one of the strongest areas in the whole of Germany for the SPD - normally a true stronghold. But the main left party lost swathes of ground: although the party retained control of the council, the scale of the damage was sufficient for victory to look like defeat. Suddenly the federal German political landscape looks very different. The national opinion polls say voters trust the Christian Democrat coalition more than the red-green option that the German system would throw up as an alternative. The CDU-CSU's chances are likely to be further improved if the economy continues on the recovery track. Chancellor Kohl, aka Houdini, is set to run in the federal elections next year and win.

We might prefer the Germans to choose the SDP moderniser Gerhard Schröder as a more attractive chancellor than Helmut Kohl, who, however meritorious his former service, is past his sellby date as the leader of 21st-century Germany. The Hamburg result, if it is symptomatic, has worrying elements, in particular the failure of the SDP to renew itself in voters' eyes, and the inflated level of support for the far right. But these are matters principally for Germans: the election also has consequences for us and specifically for the policy of benign neglect with which, since May, the Blair government has been allowed to treat European monetary union.

Kohl being in office next May are so much higher, the Kohl version of Europe's future looks virtually certain to stick. European money will be created according to the Maastricht timetable on I January 1999. Worrying about the Italians or the exact size of the German deficit will not stop the wagon. "Wait and see" starts to look less a policy of cautious wisdom, and

Now that the odds on Chancellor

It would not be cowardly for Britain to decline entry into the single currency, but it is pusillanimous not to tell the British people what our intentions are, and - if that is what we ultimately intend - when we might join. If the pound were to be locked into a Euro-equivalent value, the amount would need to be determined before next May. If the common currency were to begin in 1999 with sterling as a starting participant, the British people would have to give their approval in a promised referendum at least by the end

of 1998, which would allow all of four months' preparation. Clearly those timings are insufficient, practically and politically. German and French banks are already gearing up to convert to euro transactions; British banks, beset by the problem of re-dating software for the millennium, are barely at square one. Meanwhile, is it conceivable that a refer-

endum could be held next year, on the ba-

increasingly a position of wary indecision.

sis of mere months of debate? Londoners deserve at least the spring to muli over self-government in time for the referendum in May, which ought to mean campaigning on Europe could not begin till the summer. It is not doable, and it is time the Government said so.

In recent weeks there have been signs of Euro-manoeuvring by the Cabinet's two great Scottish rivals, Messrs Brown and Cook. Mr Brown glows with Euro-heat; Mr Cook makes the Europhiles shiver. That is all well and good: it is about time we saw some of the frozen disagreements in the Labour camp. As for the Prime Minister, he charms colleagues in Amsterdam but his body language at home leaves every option open. Now is the time for ostriches to lever their heads from the sand. The British people might not like it; they might prefer it if this period of Euro-silence lasted for ever. But the single currency will not disappear. Britain will not - cannot join the nations qualifying on 1 May next.

Democrats

Having said that out loud, the Government should then open a debate about whether we want to make a commitment to joining a "second wave" carly next century.

like it or I

Tony still 1

If Gordon Brown is sincere when he says the British economy is on a stable growth path, and so there is no need to "stop" growth abruptly in two or three years, then he is also saying that convergence between the British and continental economies will be occurring, as it were, naturally at the century's turn. That points towards British entry in 2002. That would give the country some four-and-a half years to prepare; time enough for the banks and financial system to get h together, time also for both a single-issue referendum and for the next general election, which together would supply the necessary legitimacy. Alternatively, as others in the Cabinet might argue, just as we no longer have anything to lose by staying out of the first wave, we have nothing to gain by committing ourselves now. Which is it to be, Mr Bluir?

Post letters to Letters to the Editor and include a daytime telephone number. Fax 0171 293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

LETTERS



Sir: Science progresses by learning from the unexpected. The report that an unfortunate young woman has contracted new variant CJD though she had been for many years strictly vegetarian, suggests a rethink about the mode of entry of the infecting agent (part of a

A hint lies in a small paragraph in the report which stated that the lady worked in a pet-shop and regularly handled dry pellet dog food. Any new hypothesis should include this new fact. Dry dog food, like the dry supplementary feed which is given to cows to increase the milk yield, is potentially dusty stuff. Animals snuffling through the food in a feeding bowl obviously inhale

Could this have been the mode of 'infection' with the prion protein, not only for cows and other domesticated animals, but for human handlers of the food?

At first sight the respiratory tract is not a likely route of entry; apart, that is, from the nose, where the sensory apparatus for smell lies.

This consists of nerve cells whose processes protrude at the surface of the mucous membrane where they pick up smell particles.

These nerve cells derive from and remain in direct contact with the brain. Here is a relatively easy point of entry to the brain by infected dust.

Several features support this idea in humans. Firstly, the unexpectedly short incubation time in cases of the new variant disease. This was found experimentally in many species when direct brain implantation by the agent was made as opposed to giving it in food.

Secondly, the relative youth of the known cases. The sense of smell is not human's strongest. It deteriorates as we age, and the relevant nerve cells in the nose are reduced in numbers by middle age: in many older people they have been lost completely, together with the sense of smell.

Could this be the reason why the elderly have not so far shown the 'new variant' disease? Only fairly young people with good olfactory systems have so far been affected.

essary result of a faulty bypothesis?

PETER YATES Emeritus Professor of Neuropathology Beach House Silverdale, Lancashire

Low-powered vehicles

Sir. The Royal Commission on Environmental Protection has come out against the use of large-engined cars, but not enough has been said about the advantages of low-powered vehicles.

Most of the things we own are designed for the purpose for which we use them, but cars are designed to cross deserts at high speeds and race round bends on empty roads.

The result is danger, noise and unnecessary pollution as vehicles accelerate competi-Has the restriction of beef tively, brake at the next ob-

from our diets been an unnec-struction then accelerate again, while averaging only the speed of a hicycle on a typical short journey. Collectively this behaviour is irrational, but the individual driver feels under pressure to join in whether he

likes it or not.

Low-powered vehicles purring along at safe speeds would be a world away from our present day 'race-bred' machines. Low acceleration and speeds would result in smoother traffic flows with less bunching and no serious road blocking accidents. It would become safe for children to walk to school, and more people would use their hicycles, resulting in a voluntary reduction in the number of cars on the

CLIVE BASHFORD London E8

Sir: Your transport item, "Looking At Our Car Addic-

tion", misses the point by focusing on fuel consumption. Even if all our cars became pollution-free tomorrow, we would still be facing imminent gridlock. So, we have to analyse the purpose of these journeys, of people and freight, and see how many can be avoided. Fuel duty is indeed one of the 'sticks'.

to this end, and our fast-growing IT capability undoobtedly one of the carrots. After all, few people want to spend hours on a boring motorway going to a meeting, and I have yet to find anyone (outside of Tesco's management) who thinks it makes sense to truck Italian broccoli to Coruwall during the Cornish broccoli season. Yet, at present, that road without the need for more is what they do.

David Gordon Ilminster Somerset

Sir. Mr John Grimshaw, of Sustrans (letters, 20 September)

cyclists and traffic, but cyclists themselves are part of traffic and are often the most lawless and irresponsible part.

We are losing our pavements to helmeted families and gangs of "macho" cyclists, part of a cycling culture which ignores traffie lights and oneway streets and which increasingly cycles without lights at

Cycling, far from being "environmentally friendly", is now a prime destroyer of amenity and countryside. Footpaths are being arrogated by impatient cyclists, while sensitive sites in mountains and elsewhere are being worn down by excessive cycle use.

I have witnessed how a child cycle-training scheme has created an uncontrolled cycling gang. This soon graduates into a motor cycling gang. Because cycling lawlessness normally goes unchecked such cyclists

writes of a "conflict" between reach adolescence as readymade anarchic road-rage motorists. E BURNBULL

MR. ASHDOWN

FOR POWER

Gosforth Northumberland

Sir. Public transport? What public transport? Mrs Thatcher put paid to our public transport system. Dirty, unreliable, difficult to

ccess, inconvenient to use, lacking any sort of integration: who will use huses and trains unless they have to? MARGARET BRADBURY Harpenden Hertfordshire

The Southall crash

Sir: You report (20 September) on the "grim regularity" of disasters on Britain's railways, with a death toll of some seventy over the last ten years. What do we say about the grim regular-

ity of disasters on Britain's roads with a death toll of some seventy last week, and the week before, and the week before that and ...? Few of us have pistols in our pockets, but many have lethal weapons oo the road. Who cares? I ask the question in all seriousness. MERVYN EVANS

Oxford:

the recent rail disaster at 2000, and it works fine.) Southall seems to have missed one ironic fact. The old and truly Great Western Railway had a successful form of automatic train control operating on its main lines 70 years ago, and almost certainly on this very piece of track. I quote from The 10.30 Limited - a Book for Boys of All Ages published by

the GWR in 1923: · In their continued efforts to increase the safety of railway travel, the Great Western Railway has installed at some points Dorset

in its system, what is know as the GWR System of Automatic Train Control combined with Audible Signals. The primary object of this system is to give audible warning to an enginedriver when his train is approaching a distant signal in the On position, and, in the event of this warning being disregarded, automatically apply the hrakes so as to ensure the train being pulled up before it . reaches the home signal."

The system continued to be used on lines in and out of Paddington until well after railway nationalisation. JOHN EVANS

Bomb won't explode

Sir: Your front page spread on Friday 19 September regarding the "defusing of the Year 2000 computer timebomb" has long been a cause of (needless) concern. Microsoft, in its ultimate quest, will inevitably come up with a last-minute solution: 'Windows 2000' - which will circumnavigate the "timebomh". Millions of corporate organisations and husinesses will have no alternative but to update their systems software yet again - at a price.

The solution is surely much simpler: forget the Millennium. At 23.59 (or a little before) on 31 December 1999 we all reset our computer clocks to 2001. Forget Taskforce 2000, forget the megabucks being drained from the Lottery funds for Kuhla Khanesque Konstructions in Greenwich and cancel the year 2000. Of course. overnight we'll all be a year older, digitally - in less than the time it takes your average systems manager to knock back a glass of Chardonnay - but it won't cost a bean. (Incidentally. I've already tried resetting the clock on my Apple Macin-Sir All the media coverage of - tosh Power PC to the year NICHOLAS LUMSDEN London E9

Negative thought

Sir. For me, the one plus feature of the new 'Independent' is the almost total disappearance of the minus signs from the changes column of the share HAROLD G STONE

Wareham,

Famous Albanian proverbs – or the triumph of madness over meaning



KINGTON

Today I bring you more thoughts and sayings from the Great Book of Albanian Wil and Wisdom: What is Albanian wit and wisdom? Well, whereas an English proverb is brisk and sensible, an Albanian proverb is one which doesn't quite vield up its message at first glance. Nor at second or third glance.

Tea is the only meal named after a drink.

What is the difference between sticking a stamp upside down on a letter, and sticking a letter upside down on a stamp?

You can share a bed with someone but you cannot dream the same dreams.

No man is an island. However, some men are rocky peninsulas who are regularly cut. A chef is not an artist, but a performer. His A dog which refuses to fetch a stick is not. who tear down and blow up the things we forget to sign it.

breakfast time and at cocktail hour.

To keep the dust out of her hair, a cleaning woman need only put on a knotted tope? handkerchief. To achieve the same object, a chef has to put on a white hat a foot high.

Nobody ever smiles in a self-portrait.

The swallow is said to be able to sleep while flying. But that's nothing compared with human capabilities. In the act of flying, Homo sapiens can also eat, drink, buy dutyfree objects and then go to sleep during a movie with earphones on, simultaneously snoring with his mouth wide open.

off from the mainland twice a day, during tragedy is that he is forced to work in a place where there is no audience.

Which came first, skipping or the skipping

Next time your account is well in credit. write to your bank and tell them their bor-

The one person we can never recognise from behind is ourself.

rowing is at an unacceptably high level.

Cookery programmes on television are not devised to bring cookery to the audience, hut to bring an audience to the cook.

necessarily stupid or disobedient. He may be a very intelligent dog which has learnt that if he does feach the stick, it will only be thrown back to the same place again.

Nobody knows where the wind comes from, says the poet. But only a poet would want to know.

The reason the car replaced the horse was not that it went further or faster, but that you could huy it on hire purchase.

Rugby players often resort to fisticuffs, but a boxing match never degenerates into a scrum or line-out.

Posterity is the name we give to the people

have been carefully saving for them.

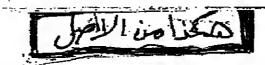
Whoever it was said that you can't judge a book by its cover was not a graphic artist.

Being English is a duty, being Welsh is a struggle, being Scottish is hard work hut being Irish is a full-time performance.

A painter is luckier than a sculptor. He only has to depict his subject from in front,

What does a blind pianist call the black and white keys?

Would you like to know more about the wonderful world of 'Albanian Wit and Wisdom'? Just send me a blank cheque - and don't



Like it or not, Paddy and Tony still need each other



DONALD **MACINTYRE** WITH THE LIB DEMS IN **EASTBOURNE**

When Paddy Ashdown was a young officer in the Special Boat Squadron one of his many challenging jobs was to drive - literally - torpedoes underwater towards their targets. It's not a bad metaphor for what he's trying to do now: something difficult, dangerous and below the surface.

Slowly, cautiously, the Liberal Democrat leader is trying to condition his besitant, wary. party to the possibilities, and the realities, of the new political order. Large sections of Liberal Democrat mankind cannot bear very much reality, so much of his big conference speech tomorrow will no doubt be delicately coded. But the warning he will issue, that there are no risk-free options for the party, is part of a long, tortuous, and increasingly urgent educational process. It's time to get real.

When the party was on its knees after the Alliance imploded in the wake of the 1987 election, it was unimaginable that Lib Dems could win 46 seats, have secured proportional representation for the European Parliament, be looking forward to coalition partnership in the governance of Scotland and be sitting on a cabinet committee under the chairmanship of a Labour prime minister. Today, the great goal of electoral reform for Westminster, and a quantum leap in the party's size and power, is at least in sight, if not yet within grasp. Ashdown's message will surely be that the party now needs fresh clarity about what is and isn't possible.

Tony Blair, it must be emphasised, regards the question of which electoral system Britain uses as essentially of secondary importance. That's hard for some steeped in a Liberal tradition which elevates proportional representation almost to an end in itself. But Blair seems to have been emphatically clear about what he wants at the Downing Street dinner he had with Paddy Ashdown, Roy Jenkins and Peter Mandelson on June 12. He seeks nothng less than the reunification of the centre left, whose split into Liberals and Labour

made the century a largely Conservative one. This is revisionism on a breath-taking scale: it says, in effect, that the Labour Party was an aberration and ought not to have happened. But Tony Blair may yet decide that his grand plan does not require PR.

There are still ministerial hawks who insist that Blair can afford to resist electoral change for Westminster on the grounds that top Liberal Democrats will, in any case, have nowhere to go but to Labour. I think they are

wrong. The momentum propelling the Prime Minister towards electoral change is too great. But the stance taken by these hawks is a reminder of how tough the negotiations on the cabinet committee will be. It also demonstrates how far purists among the Liberal Democrats will have to compromise if the talks

The first big step is the electoral commission which will shortly assemble to decide what new electoral system should be put to a referendum. It is increasingly possible that Blair will offer Lord Jenkins the job of chairing that commission; the affectionate respect he has for Jenkins is, if anything, deepening over time. And this would be a significant gesture to the Lib Dems; it would suggest that Blair was at least persuadable in favour of Commons PR. Jenkins himself would certainly ensure that the commission proposed a genuinely proportional system to put to the referendum. But what kind?

Peter Mandelson advocates the alternative vote, under which electors state their first, second and third preferences; this gives electors much more of a real choice; it's good for Labour, it's good for the Liberal Democrats - it would have doubled their seats in 1997. But there's just one problem. It isn't proportional in the sense that the outcome in seats bears no more relation to the national percentage votes than first past the post.

The possible, cloudy, basis for compromise is this: the Commission could recommend an alternative vote system, topped up by additional MPs drawn from party lists to increase the proportionality. The alternative vote could be enacted for the next election, and the rest left till the next parliament and a wholesale redrawing of constituency boundaries.

Enough of the voting system nerdery. The significance of this possible change is that it would require movements from Blair as well as the Liberal Democrats. It is conventional wisdom to assume that the Prime Minister holds all the cards and the Lib Dems are utterly dependent on his pluralistic munificence to make any progress. But ministers should be careful about patronising the Lib Dems.

Blair was right to invite them into the committee. As ministers are already finding, senior Liberal Democrats, who know constitutional issues inside out, are proving rather helpful in filling the gaps in Labour's knowledge. It was also in Blair's long-term interests to invite them in. ft's easy to forget, given Blair's current enormous popularity and his huge majority, that he won with only 44 per cent of the votc. Only co-operation with the Liberal Democrats offers him the chance of heading a government which commands the support of a true majority of the electorate.

And what goes for the Labour Party, goes for the country too. On Sunday night Shirley Williams made a little speech which reminded you what an aching, irreplaceable loss to the Labour Party was her departure in 1981. There was just a passing reference to the "ruthless" treatment of Labour dissidents during the referendum campaign. But it made the point: imagine for a moment a political landscape without the Liberal Democrats, a world without any body but the Tories to keep Lahour's authoritarian tendencies in check. Ask not only what Labour can do for the Liberal Democrats. Ask also what they can do for the Labour Party.

A cross they must continue to bear - whatever the critics say



RUPERT CORNWELL ON THE FATE OF THE RED CROSS

What is the Red Cross up to? To quote the reaction of one practitioner of the hard-nosed business of advertising yesterday, it is a "simply ludicrous idea" for the organisation whose name and emblem conjures up mankind's nobler side, to consider a change in a logo that would be worth billions were it a car marque, a type of biscuit or brand of cigarettes.

Yet that is what is happening. In terms of instant recognition, the red cross may have been overtaken in these consumer-driven times by the likes of the golden arches of McDonalds, the Mercedes star, and the yellow shell of a certain international oil company, But among the logos of international bodies, only the five rings of the Olympic movement is better known. And in terms of status, prestige, not to mention basic standards of human conduct, the IOC cannot be mentioned in the same breath as the organisation founded in 1863 by a Swiss husinessman called Jean Henri Dunant.

In November however, representatives of the Red Cross, its affiliate bodies and the 188 signatory countries of the Geneva Convention whose history is entwined with its own, will gather in Seville. There they will consider whether in certain circumstances to replace the cross and its sister emblem the crescent with another symbol. The modification would be limited. The British Red Cross and other national organisations would continue to use the cross in their own countries, for fundraising and other purposes. In the war zones, however, Red Cross personnel, ambulances and field hospitals would carry a different insignia. Among the currently favoured choices are a red diamond, lozenge, or hexagon on a white background. Not only would a

134-year sub-chapter of the history of warfare end. There could be few more revealing commentaries on our times.

It was in 1859 that Dunant tended the wounded at the battle of Solferino and was appalled by the horrors Italians and Hapsburg Austrians inflicted upon each other. He decided to create a voluntary, neutral and exclusively humanitarian body to alleviate the the country whose very name is gious association was synonymous with neutrality, was born the Red Cross. The initial batch of signatorics numbered a dozen - among them Britain which seven years later set up a national organisation that today is active in almost 50 countries, with annual charity income of £90m and some 90,000 volunteer workers.

In those earliest days, religion had nothing to do with it. The "Red Cross" was merely the Swiss national flag with its

colours reversed. But the forment's name if they persisted. But a year carlier, three Swiss mulation was too simple to last. In the Islamic world, a cross Red Cross workers had been evoked not divine mercy but the killed in Burundi, while in Desectarian imperialism of the cember 1996, six Red Cross Crusades, and by 1876 and the workers, five of them women, Russo-Turkish war, the Red were shot to death in their beds Cross was operating in Muslim as they slept in a Red Cross hoslands as the Red Crescent. A pital huilding in the Chechen capital of Grozny. Why were 19th-century version of political correctness? Perhaps. Unarthey killed? Perhaps it was guahly, however, in the long Russians seeking to show that Chechen insurgents were simrun, the mistake would prove ply beyond the pale of human most dreadful sufferings of as fatal as it was well-intenwar. Thus, four years later, in tioned. Henceforth the relidecency, maybe indeed it was muslim Chechens believing the

irreversible. At first it scarcely mattered. But now the Red Cross itself has paid a gradually increasingly poce, to the point where a change of name is a serious, perhaps the only, option. Elizabeth Twinch was one of

the fortunate ones. A Red Cross official taken hostage in Tajikistan early this year, she managed to talk her guerilla captors into releasing her, warning of the damage that would be done to their moveempires of Dunant's day, replaced by growing evidence that irretrievably religious symhols tike cross and crescent add to the hazards of the hattlefield. And there are further com-

gious differences. Gone are the clear-cut 19th-century con-

flicts between nation states and

plications. Israel, for one, recognises neither the cross nor the crescent, and has its own humanitarian organisation, the Magen David Adom. with its own symbol, the Star of David - which, of course, no one else recognises. If anything indeed, the tendency is fin images to proliferate: the Shah of Iran used a red lion and rising sun, before the Islamic regime of Ayatollah Khomeini reverted to the Red Crescent. In India, it is said, Red Buddhas have been observed on fields of conflict. But each new symbol only subtracts from the universal value of the Red Cross/Crescent and adds to the planet's already excessive stock of cultural rivalry and

And so the adman's axioms may be ignored. As Red Cross officials themselves acknowledge, even a change limited to the war zone would cost a fortune. They would have to drum in, around the world and quite probably in the fiercest heat of combat, a reflex understanding among tank commanders, artillerymen and snipers alike. that sanctuary and mercy are represented not by a cross or a crescent, hut by a red diamond, lozenge or some other logo more resembling an international road traffic sign. Almost certainly of course governments would help; who would risk international opprobrium by spurning so noble a cause?

fnevitably, and rightly, the resistance to change will be massive. As Mike Whitlam, director general of the British Red Cross, put it. "Why do this when we've got the best logo in the world?" He may take comfort that any change is not for tomorrow. The working documents now circulating are but the latest instalment of a debate which first surfaced in the 1970s. A new emblem can only arrive when ratified by all 188 signatories to the Geneva Convention. And if it does, we should blame not the Red Cross. After all, it was not the Red Cross which turned religion into the touchpaper of modern warfare, but ourselves.



His reputation may be shrinking but his influence grows

was also an article on shrinks



ANDREAS WHITTAM **SMITH** ON FREUD'S UBIQUITY

As if to mark the enducing influence of Freud, a tife-size bronze statue of the great man was moved last week from a neglected spot at the back of a north London public library to a more suitable resting place a few bundred yards up the road.

Jonathan Miller, an expert in neuro-psychology as well as a theatre and opera director, gave a short speech at the unveiling and many members of the Freud clan were present. Perhaps they defiantly res-

cued the statue hecause they bave been taken aback by the spate of books published recently attacking their distinguished ancestor in pretty vicious terms. Yet WH Auden's poem, written in memory of Freud on his death in exite in London in 1939, still perfectly describes bis significance: If often he was wrong

and, at times absurd. to us he is no more a person now but a whole climate of opinion under whom we conduct

our different lives: Like weather he can only hinder or help.*

As for a whole climate of opinion, I logged the references to Freud in this week's Independent on Stuiday. There were a surprising number, explicit and implicit, starting with a review of the latest hiography. New accounts of his life seem to be published every two or three years as a few extra letters come to light or more work is done, reconstructing the lives of Freud's own patients. There

which in its first line quoted Freud as asserting that humour is often a mask for disturbing truths. And then in Joan Smith's column, where she continued her acute analysis of the reactions to Princess Diana's dcath, she used the same Freudian insight when she argued that it is because the reporting bas been so onesided that a rash of gruesome jokes has already begun to do the rounds, an uncomfortable reminder, she wrote, of the way in which "humour, sometimes of the most macabre sort, funetions as an outlet for suppressed feetings". This is pure Freud, as is the notion that the mittions of people who were moved by Diana's death, had seen their own conflicts and anxieties in the life of the Princess, so that public mourning was a sort of release.

I cannot claim that Matthew Sweet's review of this week's main film, Mike Leigh's Carcer Girls, which I managed to catch on Saturday afternoon, is written in Freudian terms. But in the film itself, one of the scenes has the two "career girls" attending lectures on Freud in their student days during the 1980s, and the action turns on the fact that the fathers of both women deserted their mothers when they were eight years old, leaving one of them with no memory of her childhood before that event. We thus immediately enter the territory of infants' relationships

with their parents in which

Freud made his still startling assertions about pre-adolescent sexuality.

Indeed, it is Freud's treatment of the sexual abuse of children by adults which now brings the sharpest criticism. Freud had become convinced by stories related to him by patients of the importance of sexual experiences undergone

tionally charged fiction. The seductions were not real but imagined and be went on to develop hypotheses, such as the famous Oedipus complex, which were rooted in the idea that, rather than the parents lusting after their children, the children had tusted after their parents. Freud is now pillooied for not believing his patients



during childhood. He called them infantile seductions: "foremost among those guilty of abuses like these, with their momentous consequences, are nursemaids, governesses and domestic servants". He argued that the age at which the memory of the seduction was thrust back into the unconscious tended to determine the type of neurosis produced.

Then doubts set in. Freud told himself that "it was hardly credible that perverted acts against children were so general". And he began to suspect that in the unconscious, fact was indistinguishable from emo-

when they reported their childhood seductions.

The full charge sheet against Freud in recent literature is very long, though much is a restatement of criticisms which have been made since Freud's work was first published. It is argued that Freud. was not original. Fifteen centuoes earlier, had not St Augustine speculated in his Confessions on the fact that recollections would suddenly thrust themselves forward into consciousness from

some unknown reservoir? The techniques of word association were developed by the British scientist, Francis Galton,

Long before Freud, Goethe maintained that while some of the slips made by his secretary had an overt explanation. others were due to unconscious motives. Then, tooking at psychoanalysis today, critics say that as a therapy, it simply fails to work often enough to be worth pursuing. And in any case the factual basis of the theory is weak. As the Cambridge academic, John Forrester, in his recently published Dispatches from the Freud Wars (Harvard University Press) notes, Freud is seen as untrustworthy, demented and dangerous. Freud, not his patients, was the principal author of the seduction scenes - they were the fabricated product of his feverish imagination. The only mind Freud taid bare was his own. So what do the rest of us conclude? I like Forrester's

distinction between, on the one hand, people who simply read Freud out of interest - he is very readable and is still a best-selling author - and, on the other hand, the body of qualified experts.

Ordinary readers can take from Freud what seems to make sense to them and to the extent that they do, his work will remain part of the climate of opinion. The professionals will go on conducting hitter internecine warfare. But at least his statue is safe; it can be found at the Tavistock Centre in Hampstead, London, close to the house where Freud died, and which is now an excellent

worth of free calls when you RSL GLOBAL PHONE

Red Cross was the creature of

an imperialist, unholy Russia.

treacherous and increasingly fa-

miliar waters. But for all its

primitiveness and brutality.

Chechnya is a thoroughly mod-

ern war - not so much between

states as within a state, coloured

if not directly caused by reli-

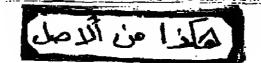
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DIANA'S FINAL DAYS

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while Giorgio Armani calls it a tracking the latest scandals, good book, a feast for the eves story involves a world leader or differently numbered tokens. the world. The Face is an enrespect within the worlds of and the mind. Consistently hitthe greatest achievements and a cultural icon, you will find it cyclopaedia of style, renowned fashion and publishing, and is the newest stars. With the ting the headlines with ground-■ Maximum of 2 free maga-MAGAZINES

Tatler

"he October issue of Tatler atches up with Christic Brinkey, the cover girl's cover girl, nd goes inside her Hamptons ome. The magazine tracks own the Hollywood Britpack, hile Henry Dent-Brockleurst and fiancée Lili Maltese ress up in butter-soft, sharput, sexy and sleek leather. lus, is your sofa more a hit-list ıan It-list - Tatler assesses ie British designers who will alp your house look hip, and tribute to Sir James Goldnith, dynamic tycoon, dynas-: family man and would-be atesman, through the eyes of s daughter Isabel. October's me comes with the 1998 Tatler she Park Restaurant Guide indispensible round up of . e bottest tables in town (and rw to secure them).

tober sees the 100th issue of 2 which celehrates in style th Paul Whitehouse. David wie dons Paul Smith, Reserir Dog Michael Marsden exins how Hollywood's leading und is creating a new breed trouble, and Tyra Banks as hack to hasics. Plus, Paul wman's motor-racing pas-

sion, the City addicts chasing the dragon and promotion, and the best hlather from the last 100 issues of GQ.

The Face

The team behind Trainspotting are back with a fine romance. The Face goes on the set of A Life Less Ordinary in Utah, and has a heart-to-heart with the film's stars, Ewan McGregor and Cameron Diaz. Plus: Em-hrace, the rising British rock band; Hiromix, the 20-yearold Japanese schoolgirl whose titillating pics of her friends are causing a revolution; Lil' Kim; board art; John Leguizamo; Photek: drag kings; and an exclusive interview with the Dalai Lama. Sort of...

GQ Active

The health, fitness and sport for men, hrings the reader the ultimate eat yourself sexy plan. David Coulthard reveals his hitech work-out which is as advanced as the McLaren he drives. Plus, ways you can improve your running technique, the GQ.Active trainer top ten, and how to take on The Gladiators. The October issue of GQ Active comes with a special edition 256 page guide to Daring Days Out in the UK.

Arena

Exclusive interview with, and sensational photographs of, Elizabeth Hurley, the original posh spice. The women who wore The Dress tells Arena the fame game isn't funny anymore. Plus: climbing Everest the hard way; Teddy Sheringham's new boots and panties; what they don't teach you at SAS school; how to tell if you've got a small penis; and the problems with Naomi Campbell, Jimmy McGovern and the Cherokec Jeep.

Vanity Fair Vanity Fair features a special tribute to Diana, Princess of Wales, looking hack over her last summer, whether flying to Bosnia to crusade against land mines or finding romance on the Riviera. The decade-long partnership of Domenico Dolce and Stefano Gabbana is explored, the affinity of Weegee, the 1940s crime photographer, for the underbelly of New York is examined, and with virtually every icon of the British stage appearing in an eight-hour, \$13 million television adaptation of A Dance to the Music of Time, Vanity Fair predicts a revival of Anthony Powell's masterwork.













TERMS AND CONDITIONS

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23/BUSINESS

BUSINESS & CITY EDITOR, JEREMY WARNER NEWS DESK: 0171-293 2636 FAX: 0171-293 2098 E-MAIL: INDYBUSINESS@ INDEPENDENT.CO.UK FINANCIAL JOURNAL OF THE YEAR

Like it or lump it, Brussels tells BA alliance

Karel Van Miert, the **European Competition** Commissioner, yesterday said US regulators. backed his demands that **British Airways and** American Airlines surrender 350 slots a week at Heathrow. He was speaking ahead of a meeting today with Margaret Beckett to discuss the P&O/Stena ferry merger. Michael Harrison reports.

Mr Van Miert insisted there would be no horsetrading with BA and AA, indicating that Brussels had aiready softened its stance on the concessions being demanded. He said that if it had applied the same rules to their alliance as other tie-ups between US and European carriers then the two carriers would have had to give up 500 slots.

The Competition Commissioner also said it was his understanding that the US Department of Transportation. the main regulatory body on the other side of the Atlantic, was looking for a similar level of slot concessions.

Mr Van Miert said he was not saying to BA and AA "take it or leave it" but that the Commission stood by its demands. "We have no reason to back track from that. As things stand the companies will have to come up with proposals."

BA and AA would not be allowed to sell the slots because the legislation did not allow for that full-blown merger of their and they would have to surrender them from the first day their

alliance became operational. helps explain why there are real worries in some quarters that the alliance will never get off the ground. Boh Crandall, the chairweek gave a downbeat assessment of the prospects of gaining the level demanded by Brussels. approval from Brussels. But he



Karel Van Miert criticised open skies agreements, saying they "flew in the face of the principles of the single market"

said the two airlines still planned to co-operate even if they were not allowed to proceed with a transatlantic operations.

The concessions that Brus-Mr Van Miert's tough stance alent to 25 round trips from Heathrow a day. The Office of Fair Trading has recommended the two airlines give up half that number of flights hut rival US man of American Airlines, last carriers have argued that the concessions should be double

Miert yesterday at an SBC Warhurg transport conference the two men were attending in London and shook hands.

Later BA put out a concilsels is demanding are the equiv- iatory statement which contrasted with its initial criticisms of the Commission's "flawed" approach to vetting the alliance when it submitted its formal response on 5 September.

BA said it had met the Commission last Friday and agreed that a detailed series of meet-Boh Ayling, BA's chief ex- ings would take place over the

ecutive, spoke briefly to Mr Van next few months to discuss is- proceeding but if it went ahead sues raised by the Commission's competition directorate and respond to its request for substantial further information.

> "We are confident that at the end of this process an equitable solution will be reached with the three competition authorities of the UK, US and EC."

Earlier Mr Van Miert had indicated that unless progress was made then the Commission would move to formalise its position. He said Brussels could not prevent the alliance from filed a complaint with the Eu-

on the proposed basis "there

Separately, he criticised the open skies agreements that a number of EU member states have been signing with the US and which London and Washington will sign if the BA-AA alliance goes ahead.

These, he said "flew in the face of the principles of the single market" because they discriminated in favour of certain airlines. The Commission has protect ferry passengers.

Lewis fund poised for buying spree in leisure sector

Enic, the investment trust backed by Joe Lewis, believed to be Britain's richest man, is about to embark on an acquisition spree after securing £51 m from a host of investors.

Andrew Yates reports that the group has ambitions to become a large player.

Daniel Levy, the 35-year-old Cambridge graduate hand-picked by Bahamas-based entrepreneur and close friend Joe Lewis to run Enic, is sitting on a paper profit of more than £18m following the company's £51m fund-raising exercise.

Mr Levy's trust, Walburg Holdings, is now entitled to 7.5 million convertible shares which can be swapped for ordinary shares at a price of 32.7p compared to yesterday's closing price of 275p.

A spokesman for Enic said Mr Levy was granted the convertible shares when the share price was 25p. Mr Levy also owns ordinary shares in Enic worth more than £417,000.

Enic plans a series of large acquisitions in the sports, leisure and media sectors throughout Europe. It raised another £20m from institutions in April and is thought to be prepared to spend more than £100m.

ing talks with member states about Brussels being given the It is in talks with AEK Athens, one of Greece's leadpower to negotiate Europe-wide ing football clubs, about a Whitehall sources described takeover. And it is thought to the meeting between Mrs Beckbe in talks with other big European football clubs and has an ett and Mr Van Miert over the P&O-Stena merger as signifioption to take a large stake in cant, indicating that London and Rangers, Scotland's leading Brussels are close to a decision club, and Vincenza of Italy.

However, the group is also looking at a range of other nonfootball acquisitions. It is be-

sporting areas and in particular the acquisition of intellectual property rights and hrands which it hopes to exploit on a large scale.

Enje is likely to announce a string of deals within the next few months. Mr Lewis owns 49 per cent of Enic, although his shareholding will be diluted in just under 36 per cent after the refinancing. Enic insists that Mr Lewis has a passive role but he is understood to be watching its

progress closely. Enic plans to convert from an investment trust to a normal pic once it has pulled off a large acquisition. This will allow it to take up its option to pay £40m for a 25 per cent stake in Rangers. It also plans to pay £2.5m to raise its stake in Vincenza to 62 per cent from just under 30 per cent.

Compaigne Financiere Richemont, the French group which has an empire that spans famous brands such as Dunhill. Rothmans and Cartier, has hought £3.1m of Enic's shares. taking its stake in the group to 5.4 per cent.

The stake raises the prospect that Richemont could form an alliance with Enic to exploit acquisition opportunities, Indeed, Richard Hersov, who joined the group last month as director to help oversee its expansion in Europe, has close links with

He was managing director of Telepui, Italy's leading pay television company, in which Richemont used to have a large stake, Richemont now owns a 15 per cent stake in Canal Plus. the French media giant which in turn owns a large stake in

The link with Canal Plus could help further Enic's amhitions. Mr Hersov stands to make millions from a share options package if he can secure lieved to be looking at other successful acquisitions.

Key shareholders join calls to remove **Bradshaw at Care First**

Shareholder calls to oust Keith Bradshaw, the chairman of Care First, following a boardroom bust-up gathered pace yesterday. Meanwhile other directors in the nursing home group are coming under pressure as more employees consider

The guestion now is whether Chai Patel, the group's former chief executive, will be reinstated, writes Sameena Ahmad.

Two key shareholders in Care First, the embattled nursing home group, yesterday joined calls to remove Keith Bradshaw as chairman. Following meetings yesterday with Chai Patel, who quit as chief executive last month after a power struggle with Mr Bradshaw, Mercury Asset Management and Schroders, which hold around 9 per cent of the group's shares, have shifted their positions in favour of removing Mr Bradshaw. Schroders is also keen to reinstate Mr Patel while MAM is undecided.

Invesco and Abbey Life said yesterday that they had support from at least 20 per cent of shareholders to call an emergency meeting and are preparing to present shareholders' concerns to SBC Warburg, Care First's advisers, tomorrow. The institutions want to vote on two issues whether to remove Mr Bradshaw and whether to reinstate Mr Patel.

A leading fund manager who called recent developments "shareholder democracy in action," said yesterday that he saw no reason wby Mr Patel should not come back: "He is the best brains in the sector and he is willing to return. I cannot see why the board say it would be difficult to get him

A split is also emerging among Care First's non-executive directors. Some members of the company's board are unhappy about the claim by Warburgs that more than half of shareholders support Mr Bradshaw staying as non-executive chairman. One non-executive yesterday independently called leading shareholders to clarify their

The position of Keith Ackroyd, Care First's deputy chairman, and Ron Reid, finance director, also look increasingly un-

Mr Ackroyd yesterday fuced criticism Cavendish in the first place."

from institutions for being too close to Mr Bradshaw, He and Ian Kirkpatrick, another non-executive director, have been accused of undermining Mr Patel's reputation to shareholders. One said that he was "disillusioned" that some of the non-executive directors at Care First appeared to be closing ranks. Cure First was unavailable for comment last night.

Mr Ackroyd has also been accused by some observers of failing as the senior nonexecutive director to make every effort to inform all other non-executives of Mr Patel's intentions to resign. One non-executive who was not contacted by Mr Ackroyd before the resignation said he would have tried to persuade Mr Patel to solve the issue from within the group. "It could have all looked very different.

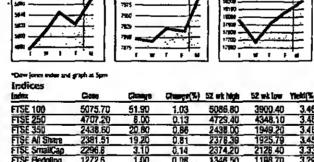
Though the director eventually voted against Mr Patel's reinstatement "for the sake of board unity", he said yesterday that, "in an ideal world, Mr Patel is still the best person to run this company".

Mr Reid is also facing criticism over accounting policy within the company following the merger last year between Takare, founded by Mr Bradshaw, and Court Cavendish, Mr Patel's company.

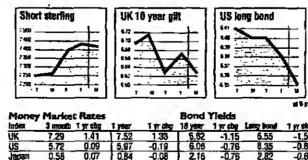
The company's failure to implement a proper accounting and payroll system means Care First is still owed several hundreds of thousands of pounds by employees who were overpaid. The company was forced to call in its auditors KPMG at the half-year to overhaul the accounts.

Morale is said to be low among senior employees at Care First. Since news last week that four management board members were considering leaving the company, several top managers have contacted The Independent saying they are also reviewing their positions.

Meanwhile Butterfield Securities will today join Laing & Buisson, the healthcare consultants in questioning Care First's stock market value. In a new research note, Butterfield's places a maximum value on Care First's assets of 65p-70p a share, significantly below Warburg's estimate of 170p and the group's share price of 97p. "Once institutions realise what this company is worth, they will see that no-one is going to bid even a pound for it," said Laing & Buisson's Paul Saper. "Care First needs a leader who can radically improve relations with the health authorities and bring in skilled managers. The old Takare management know it which is why they merged with Court

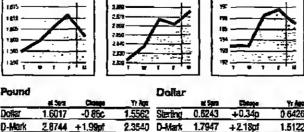


INTEREST RATES



MAIN PRICE CHANGES

Rises	Price (pl	ENE SO	% Chys	Falls	Price (p)	Che (p)	T, Che
Eng China Clavs	263.50	30,50	13.09	Traxm PLC	151.50	-14.50	-8.73
Laporte PLC	706.50	30.00	4.43	Telewest Comm	78.00	-2.50	-3.11
Nati Group	274.00	10.00	3.79	Hambros PLC	219.00	-8.00	-2.5
BICC PLC	151.00	5.50	3.78	Ocean Group PLC	581.50	-1250	-210

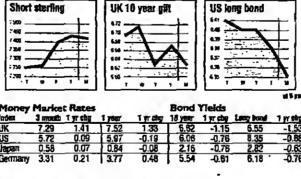


195.34 -41.29 171.14 Yen 121.96 -40.14

OTHER INDICATORS

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FTSE 250	4707.20	8.00	0.13	4729.40	4348.10	3.48
FTSE 350	2438.60	20.80	0.86	2438.00	1949.20	3.46
FTSE All Share	2381.51	19.20	0.81	2378.39	1925.79	3.45
CTCT CIC	77000 0	2 40	0.44	0074.00	7470 40	2 22



BICC PLC	151.00	5.50	3.78	Ocean Group		31.50	-12.50	-2
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Eurotunnel anger as Dol seeks bigger profit share

Eurotunnel warned that a row with the UK and French governments over proposals to

Photograph: Nicola Kurtz

ropean Court of Justice hut has

reements with the US.

on the deal. The Commission

wants to impose concessions to-

agreed to freeze the action pend-

extend its licence to operate the Channel Tunnel could hamper the approval of its £9bn refinancing deal.

As Chris Godsmark, Business Correspondent, reports, the argument has prompted threats of further legal action.

With a week left before the deadline for Eurotunnel's 174 banks to approve the debt restructuring package, the UK Department of Transport has raised the stakes in negotiations to lengthen its operating concession. The provisional agreement in July, which would extend the licence from 65 to 99 years, to 2086, was crucial in persuading shareholders to vote in favour of the complex deht-for-equity swap, which could see their stake in the company re-

duced to 40 per cent. Patrick Ponsolle, the French co-chairman of Eurotunnel, said he had assumed the negotiations would be "fairly simple" and non-contentious, but the two governments were now seeking a higger share of the company's profits during the extension period than the 25 per cent previously indicated. The DoT said it was "keen to improve" on the deal. "There have to be some benefits to the UK government and French government," said a spokeswoman.

Mr Ponsolle warned that Eurotunnel risked creating a false market in its shares if the restructuring plan was approved before the final deal on the operating licence. "We would have a substantial problem understanding how such a final agreement could substantially depart from what was indicated last spring," he said.

Georges Berlioz, the lawyer acting for one of the shareholders' action groups, said investors were likely to widen an existing legal claim in France against the refinancing package. "We are certainly reconsidering the position on the grounds that the information given to shareholders before the vote was misleading."

Jeff Summers, an analyst from deht traders Klesch & Co. said the DoT's demand for greater freight traffic through the tunnel was likely to influence the banks. "The logic of the DoT is commercial suicide for Eurotunnel. It suggests lowering charges for freight and that's the last thing they want."

Eurotunnel yesterday unveiled losses of £323m for the first half of the year, down from £372m a year ago, on revenues of £230m, a rise of 12 per cent after adjusting for the surge in the value of sterling. It said it expected to make operating profits this year at least as hig as the £54m indicated in its most recent prospectus.

Builders buoyant despite house price blip

Signs that househuyers may be resisting stock. "We believe public demand can with higher prices has failed to dampen optimism as three of the building industry's higgest groups reported record profits.

A survey published today by the Royal fistitution of Chartered Surveyors shows a fall in the number of surveyors seeing house price increases, with only London and the West Midlands reporting rises in the three months to the end of August.

But the findings are at odds with the view of Beazer, the UK's third-biggest housebuilder, which revealed yesterday that it believed it could nearly double its curreni output of houses.

Dennis Webh, chief executive, said there was still plenty of "headroom" for the housebuilding industry, with the 155,000 units huilt in the last year still well short of the 180,000 to 185,000 expected to be required to accommodate new households and the replacement of old housing

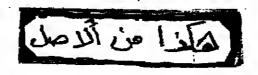
stand some continuing interest rate rises if this proves to he necessary." Beazer's pre-tax profits jumped 34 per

cent higher to £62.2m in the year to June Ibstock, one of the UK's two largest brick groups, said there was continued op timism about the market for the rest of the year. Boosted by the acquisition of the Steetley brick operation from Redland last year, pre-tax profits jumped from £2.41m to £8.45m in the latest half-year.

Elsewhere, Rugby, the country's third ranking cement producer, said the hous ing and commercial markets remaine "reasonably strong".

Pre-tax profits before exceptional item rose 12 per cent to £32.6m in the six month to June, while the interim dividend is be ing raised 10 per cent to 1.65p.

- Magnus Grimon Investment column, page 2



Nomura hops into top slot with Inntrepreneur buy

Nomura, the Japanese bank, yesterday became the largest indepenent pub operator in the UK with the £1.2bn acquisition of Inntrepreneur and

Spring Inns companies. Andrew Yates also reports that Grand Metropolitan, which sold its 50 per cent stake in Inntrepreneur, warned the strong pound would cost it £31 m this year.

Grand Metropolitan and Australian Brewer, Foster's, have sold their 50 per cent stakes in Inntrepreneur, which has 2,900 pubs. to Nomura for £950m. Nomura has also bought Spring lnns, the 1,410-strong puh chain which was split off from Inntrepreneur last year, for around £225m.

Nomura, a securities house. plans to invest heavily in Inntrepreneur and will speed up the puh group's plans to create a managed pub estate.

Mike Foster, chief executive of Inntrepreneur, said: "Nomura obviously has deeper pockets. We can step up our plans to create a managed pub Spring Inns have also failed to

chain of a few hundred pubs." However Nomura is not likely to hold the group for the long term. It is likely to dispose of the group through a trade sale or flotation on the stock market after a few years.

The restructurion of Inntrepreocur could also lead to some management job losses but it is understood a large-scale redundancy programme is not on the cards at the moment.

However, Nomura has taken on a potential huge compensation claim from the pub groups' tenants who are looking to elaim damages for allegedly being unfairly tied to heer supply agreements.

Under the deal all future litigatioo risks have been transferred from GrandMet and Foster's to Nomura. The litigation worries in-

tensified this summer when more than 800 pub tenants, or more than a third of lantrepreneur's tenanted estate. failed to sign up to Retail Link, a new lease that commits them to huying beer from the group. Most of the tenants are thought to be determined to take legal action against Inntrepreneur over their existing leases which analysts believe could cost the

group up to £350m in damages. More than 400 tenants of sign up and could threaten

further legal action. One Inntrepreneur publican said yesterday: "We are determined to carry on fighting Inntrepreneur and await a decision by the European Commission on the legality of the beer agreements."

Mr Foster now believes Inntrepreneur will be able to secure a better deal from Scottish & Newcastle, the UK's largest brewer, wheo its beer supply agreement comes up for reoewal oext March and is planning to introduce several new beer suppliers.

GrandMet's sale of its 50 per cent stake io Inntrepreceur clears another obstacle in the way of its proposed £23ho merger with Guinness. However the group said the sale, which will raise £195m, would lead to a £54m charge this

GrandMet also warned that the impact of the strong pound would cost it another £22m in the second half on top of a £9m currency hit in the first six months. But it denied the recent turmoil in Far Eastern currency markets would have a significant effect on profits.

GrandMet said the decision to exit its Burger King operations in France would cost another £20m.

Ofgas set to delay start of domestic competition

The gas industry watchdog, Ofgas, is considering extending the timetable for the roll-out of domestie competition next year after renewed fears about the process from independent suppliers. The new suggested timetable would see the final area of the UK to be opened up, London and Surrey, not exposed to competition uotil early autumn 1998, rather than 19 June. Ofgas is understood to be concerned that strong demand in earlier regions could spill over, causing problems for rival suppliers to British Gas. An Ofgas spokesman said: "The dates are not fixed in stone. If things went extremely well we could delay the roll-out to give customers a better service." The next phase of competition, for 2 million households in Scotland and the North-east of England, is due to start on I November.

Battle meets power chiefs

John Battle, the industry minister, is to meet UK electricity company bosses today to discuss the introduction of domestie competition planned for next year. The meeting comes as doubts arose last week about the ability of some regional power companies to meet the deadlines. Mr Battle faced renewed pressure yesterday from leading business energy customers, who demanded a freeze on administrative charges from the wholesale power market, the Electricity Pool. The Utility Buyers' Forum yesterday wrote to Mr Battle, describing proposed rises in charges as excessive.

ICI sells chemicals company

ICI has sold its Montreal-based subsidiary, ICI Forest Products, to Pioneer Companies, based in Houston, Texas, for £146m. Forest Products manufactures chemicals for pulp and paper manufacturers and made an operating profit of £28.2m in the year to the end of December 1996.

MBO acquires Granada firm

Granada has sold Granada Computer Services to a management buy-out team, backed by CVC Capital Partners, for £89m, plus an £8m dividend paid by GCS to Granada immediately prior to the disposal. Granada's chief executive, Charles Allen, said: "This disposal is earnings cohancing and in line with our policy of concentrating on our media and botels and catering businesses."

France Telecom flotation could raise up to £4.4bn

The flotation of part of France in May. The finance ministry Telecom, the state-owned tele- said 7.5 per cent of the company phones giant, could raise would be offered to French pri-Fr40bn (£4.4bn) for the French vate investors at a price likely government, the finance mio- to be between Fr170 and Fr190 istry revealed yesterday.

Around 21 per cent of France Telecom is to be offered for sale to the public, with a further 2 per cent of the company to be included in the flotation depending on demand.

The sale had been due to take place earlier this summer but was ahandoned by the socialist coalition government of Lionel Jospin, prime minister.

A further 11.5 per cent would be placed with big institutions in France and overseas. Trading in the shares will start on 20 October.

In addition, 2.1 per cent of France Telecom's capital would be offered to the company's employees, a smaller figure than the 3 to 4 per cent previously indicated. The group said it ex-pected half its 180,000 staff to after its surprise election victory

apply for shares and brushed off opposition from trade unions. who have called a strike for 30 September.

Michel Bon, France Telecom chairman, said a share swap with Deutsche Telekom, the company's partner, could take place later next year. The government refused to be drawn yesterday on the size of the stake to be offered to Deutsche. though the ministry had previously suggested that a further 7.5 per cent of France Telecom's shares would be offered to the German operator.

- Chris Godsmark

Beckett backs competition

Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, will tonight give ber backing to a fresh initiative designed to boost the competitiveness of manufacturing industry by 50 per cent.

The campaign, spearheaded by the Confederation of British industry, is aimed at putting British firms on a par with their US counterparts and increasing national output by 10 per cent, or £60bn.

The centrepiece of the ini ... tiative will be a national best

practice campaign to promote better standards of leadership. productivity, operational performance, quality, customer service and innovation throughout industry.

Mrs Beckett will endorse the campaign when she ebairs the first meeting tonight of the Government's competitiveness advisory forum and speaks at a special CBI debate on manufacturing.

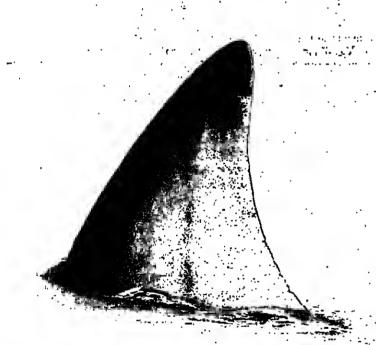
Alec Daly, chairman of the CBI's National Manufacturing Council, said British insince the mid-1980s but that the improvement was beginning to slow down and it still lacked sufficient world class companies.

The aim of the hest practice campaign will be to encourage firms to benchmark themselves against the most efficient companies in their sector and elsewhere in the world.

The CBI believes the camraign will highlight the areas in which many areas of manufacturing are lacking.

- Michael Harrison

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Beazer exposed to downturn

Beazer, the UK's third-higgest househullder, has come a long way since floating free from Hanson in March 1994. House completions since then have jumped just over a third to hit 7,177 in the year to June, while operating profits have grown by nearly a half to £65.4m. Sadly,

In part, this sluggishness reflects the comcrease in completions and a 17 per cent rise keeping its other costs under control. last year for £35.7m. It is difficult to see where bunting for a way to spend its £500m cash pile. Beazer goes from here.

Dennis Webb, chief executive, believes there is no reason past success cannot be repeated. But there seems little room for manoeuvre on margins. Although there is some ground to be on to a few aces made up, Beazer's returns are already among the best in the industry, while labour and other costs are going the wrong way.

hie what Wanpey believes is manageable, while plans for a big expansion on its own site have

business is returning to normal, reflected in full-year figures to June showing profits up 41 per cent to £29.1m.

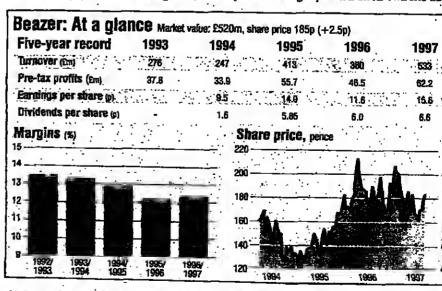
Excluding currency, which lopped £25m off total sales, turnover in the group's core personal care and bousehold products business grew 6.6 per cent, almost double the market's rate of growth. Margins are also recovering.

Though the supermarkets remain touch on price, MeBride says that big suppliers which can make products of equal or better quality the shares have not kept pace, rising from a to the brands have some negotiating clont. If placing price of 165p to just 185.5p, up 3p yes- McBride can make a washing powder as good as Persii or Ariel at removing stains, customers will switch to the supermarket brand pany's own success. Yesterday it reported a 34 and Tesco or Sainsbury saves a small fortune per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £62.2m for on promotion. This means McBride has to the year to June, boosted by a 20 per cent in- maintain a high spend on development, while

in the average price to £74,500. Beazer is very Nat West has raised next year's profits forecast much a national housebuilder, with 16 regional by £1.5m to £33m, so the shares, unchanged operations in the main business and three at 170p, stand on a forward p/e ratio of 12. working under the banner of Charles Church. Good value, especially as Wassall, which rethe upmarket Home Counties builder acquired . cently bought a 2.98 per cent stake, is openly

Chelsfield holds

Chelsfield has emerged as a property sector That leaves Beazer primarily dependent on stars under the astute guidance of its chairman, volume for growth. Mr Webb believes there Elliott Bernerd. Merry Hill, a Mecca for West is the potential to lift completions to 800 units. Midlands shoppers, has seen its value leap after per regional operation, giving a theoretical total the Government called a halt to other out-ofof nearly 14,000 a year. That is close to dou- town shopping centres. However Chelsfield's



under three year's output. Add in the increasing importance of the booming Southeast and Beazer could be dangerously exposed

The group is attempting to move upmarket, with Charles Church opening up in Soli-hull. But even if profits hit £72m this year, putting the shares on a lowly forward p/e ratio of 11, this is not one to chase.

McBride recovers from burst bubble

maker, is emerging from a rotten period.

the increasingly costly land bank is down to likewise been thwarted, at least temporarily, That said the group still has several aces up its sleeve, especially in London, it should get planning permission by the start of oext year for a buge site at White City, where it is looking to build a £500m retail development, while its mixed retail and residential development in Paddington could be even bigger.

Chelsfield's latest pre-tax profits, up from £6m to £10m in the six months to June, owned much to a good performance from the recent Westbury Hotels acquisition from Granada. The shares rose 8.5p to 334p, well clear of Merrill Lynch's year-end net asset value forecast of 262p. However the White City development alone could add up to 100p to that figure.

Property stocks have enjoyed a good run McBride, the shampoo and washing powder on the back of a long-awaited upturn in the property cycle. There is more to come, but in-Floated at 188p two years ago, the group's vestors are best advised to stick with quality shares dived almost immediately after a hu-stocks in the event that the market hegins to mid summer filled its detergent factories falter. Mr Bernerd's abilities means Chelsfield with bubbles and prices of essentials like poly-looks a better bet than most. With the shares mers and cardboard packaging soared. But well off their high, they look attractive.



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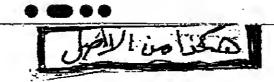
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OUTLOOK

Tinpot speculator meets tinpot dictator

Tinpot speculator meets tinpot dictator. George Soros and Mahathir Mohamad were involved in a spectacular exchange of insults at the IMF meeting in Hong Koog over the weekend. They perhops thoroughly deserve each other. But there's equally little doubt about who is in the right oo all this. Like him or loathe him, it is George Soros.

There's nothing particularly new in the Malaysian premier's complaint. From George Brown's famous fingering of the "G-oomes of Zurich", politicians the world over have tended to blame their economic ills, giveo the chance, on the antics of international speculators.

In recent years, however, the speculator has come to be seen in a rather more favourable light, even a force for good if the end result of his activities is what turns out to be a oecessary economic adjust-

That is what has occurred in the Far East. The IMF has been warning for several years that the Pacific Rim economies were floating oo a dangerous mixture of unchecked credit expansion and speculative froth.

The only real puzzle is that it has taken the likes of George Soros so long to move in 00 the region and exploi it. What be and other speculators have done is certainly accelerate the pace of crisis, and possibly by over correcting in the way markets always do, deepened it o bit. But there is little doubt that the punishmeot capital markets are inflicting oo the region is thoroughly deserved.

By attempting to fight it, Mahathir and others are just exacerbating the situation. The regioo's growth has been fed by foreign capital. Now to turn round and try to stop what the speculators are doing is merely going to make a bad position worse. If a country is in oeed of foreign capital, about the worst thing it can possibly do is attempt to prevent it getting out. Mahathir and others in the regional are liviog in the finaocial equivalent of psychological denial. It's always so much easier to blame the nasty foreign speculator than acknowledge your own failings.

Mr Mahothir's strictures are oaturally very much directed at his own domestic audience, but when phrased in such intemperate and backward looking language, he shouldn't be surprised if be is taken seriously by the financial markets as well. Mr Soros is right. Mahathir is a menace to his own country. He is making a bad situation worse and by doing so he is performing a grave disservice to his own people. If the international capital markets belp hasten his demise, that would be an

If it is true that National Westminster Bank has put Gleacher, its US corporate finance business, up for sale, then plainly things are in a rather more serious state round there than anyone imagined. Or are

Nat West was downplaying the reports yesterday, but that Gleacher is up for sale is certainly what many of its rivals think.

It is little more than eighteen months ago that NatWest bought Gleacher, More dramatic U turns in corporate strategy than this bave certainly been known, but they and impose capital controls in an attempt generally don't take place under the same management.

Investment banking was to have been a cornerstone of the NatWest Group. Tofurther these ambitions, the company bought in short order Gleacher, Gartmore, Greenwhich Capital Markets and Hambro Magan.

Even before NatWest discovered a blackhole in its options book, none of these acquisitions looked particularly inspired. The partners of Hambro Magan, once a to get out of this business cotirely. booming corporate finance boutique, seem to have been out to pasture, or pos-sibly lunch, ever since NatWest picked them up. NatWest might be well advised to get them off the pay role too.

Martin Oweo, chief executive of NaiWest Markets, has done the bonourable thing and hymn book in hand, falleo oo his sword.

But he was hardly the only or even the chief architect of all this. That the chairman and chief executive of NatWest can so brazenly reverse o strategy they embarked oo such a short time ago almost.

Unless, of course, you believe what the share price is saying - that the bank is being groomed for takeover.

Three possible suitors are known to have given NatWest the once over already -Abbey National, the Prodential, and Bar-

To that list can now be added the Halifax, which is said to have a not insubstantial team evaluating the possibility of a merger. Plainly, investment banking of is no interest at all to Halifax.

It may involve some swallowing of pride, but if what Lord Alexander and Derek Wanless are doing is attempting to make themselves more appetising to others, then shareholders might have something to thank them for after all. In attempting to improve its return from investment banking, NatWest is probably on a hiding to nothing. The more direct route to shareholder value may be for Nat West

Karel Van Miert is oot exactly flavour of the mooth at British Airways. Nor has be endeared himself to Lord Sterling's ferry company P&O. In fact, giveo the frequency with which he journeys from Brussels to London these days, his travel options are beginning to look decidedly

The European Competition Commissioner is in town today to talk to Margaret Beckett about the P&O-Steoa ferry

Yesterday he was giving the BA-American Airlines alliance more stick. In case the accountancy profession thought it had got away with it, he is about to get his teeth stuck into the Coopers & Lybrand Price Waterhouse merger.

What, you may ask, is going on? How, you may wonder, can one man wield such unfettered power? Why, you may con- tioo comes with the territory.

clude, can't Brussels keep its big nose out of matters that don't concern it and leave the markets to make sure the consumer is properly served?

Well, in these days of international capital, multi-national corporations and global alliances, Mr Van Miert is the regulatory

A one-man competition authority who can side-step the physical boundaries of nation states and take on the cartels wher-

ever they seek to set up. Sometimes he oversteps the mark. It remains o mystery why Brussels ever thought it had the right to yet a merger between two American placemakers. As it transpired, the concessions it wrung out of Boeing were largely academic.

Sometimes Brussels needs to pay more attention to the principle of subsidiarity - the idea that competition law is best made and implemented at local level.

Both the BA-AA and the P&O-Stena mergers raise issues concerning distinct markets but in the case of aviation at least. the ramifications of the merger proposed by BA and AA go far beyond these

But Mr Van Miert and the Commission's competition directorate DG4 are not going to go away, nor can they be ignored. Indeed, if anything, their writ will run wider as more mergers fall into Brussels lap for approval.

Little Englanders moy obbor it. Big business may fight it. But global corporations have to learn that global regula-



Chinese Vice-Premier Zhr Rongji being welcomed by the top brass at the World Bank/ IMF meeting in Hong Kong yesterday

Japan backs Asian rival to IMF

Japan has alarmed other members of the G7 with a detailed plan for an Asian rival to the IMF. The creation of a \$100bn (£63bn) 'Asian Monetary Fund' could place a guestion mark over the future of the G7 itself.

Diane Coyle, Economics Editor, reports.

An unexpected Japanese proposal for the creation of an Asiao Monetary Fund, presented to the G7 ministers for the first time in Hong Kong, has angered the Americans and alarmed other countries who fear it would undermine the

The Jopanese plao has emerged from its experience of participating in the \$17.2bo IMF-led rescue package for Thailand this summer.

The Japanese have indicated that they are concerned about being asked to play a higger role in the world economy without any increase in their influence in the international organisations.

The planned fund, of which the other G7 countries only got wind a week or so before the start of the current IMF annual meeting, would stand ready to bail out any Asian economy suffering a financial crisis like that afflicting Thailand.

The fund would in theory attach the same tough conditions, in terms of policy reforms. as

However, officials from

other countries are concerned that a purely regional fund would be more vulnerable to political influence than the

Many also expressed the fear that the creation of such a big fuod earmarked for rescue operations would encourage too much risky lending, for Japan's taxpayers would ulumately be providing a guarantee for loans that weot hadly

However, there was sympathy, outside the American delegation, for the view that Japan had a geouine grievance about its lack of influence on the internatinnal economic stage despite heing an important contributor to the IMF's finances. Japan's move touches Asian member and no Latin American representation - will cootinue to be the best forum for international policy discussions as other ecocomies grow much larger.

Other Asian countries -Singapore, Korea, Hong Kong, Malaysia and Thailand -- also recently became contributors to the IMF's New Arrangements to Borrow, the emergeocy overdraft fund set up in the wake of the Mexican crisis in early 1995. They too have been rewarded with little extra influ-

ence in the US-dominated IMF. In addition, some present at the meetings in Hong Kong felt the Americans were most upset by the political implications of being excluded from future Asian packages. Many on the sensitive issue of also agreed that greater co-opwhether the G7 - with only one eration between Asia's central

hanks and finance ministries would help prevent a repeat of the recent currency and stockmarket crisis-and might have been more effective than the secret IMF mission to Thailand in urging policy reforms.

In the end, if the Asian countries want to go ahead and set up a parallel fuod, there is oothing the rest of the G7 could do to stop it. Officials said yesterday that future discussions obout the plan were likely be very sensitive. In a joint statement yester-

day the US and Thailaod stressed the oeed for the latter to implement swiftly the IMF. imposed package of economic policies and banking reform. "Thailand's financial stabilisation is of great importance to the US and to South-east Asia

IMF backs Short call for corruption crackdown

Businessmen caught bribing foreign government officials to secure a deal will risk going to prison in future, Clare Short has told the annual meeting of the IMF and World Bank. Diane Coyle reports.

The Secretary of State for International Development's comments reflected one of the I know no one has ever been for the first time yesterday. The

of finance ministers and central bankers following the publicatinn of an IMF-World Bank report oo the economic damage caused by corruption.

She welcomed the agreement by the rich OECD countries to eod tax deductibility for bribes business overseas and to make illegal the bribery of public of- tries can lecture poor ooes." ficials abroad. Although this is already a criminal offence in the UK. Ms Short said: "As far as

main themes of the gathering charged with it. We will need to be more vigilant."

She emphasised that corruntion involved two parties, the giver as well as the recipient of the bribe. "There is a strong new consensus that corruption damages development. And there is no longer the permade in the course of doing ception that corruption is something on which rich coun-

> Ms Short was addressing the delegates in her capacity as the UK's World Bank governor

Bank's development committee put the importance of the struggle against corruption at the top of its communiqué.

Ms Short said there had been strong support for this. although China and India bad raised the difficulty of distinguishing corruption from differences between countries in business practices. She said: There is always o question of how proven it can be. But if we all take it more seriously it will

be a massive advance. The communiqué began:

"Ministers agreed that corruptioo and weak governance undermine macroecooomic stability, private sector activity and sustainable development objectives."

Britain's emphasis oo openoess and transparency in economic policy woo coother unexpected success when a key IMF committee agreed with Gordoo Brown's suggestion that the Fund should consider drawing up a code of good practice on openness for all member countries.

China calls summit to discuss reform of financial sector stuck in Maoist era

Basking in the approval of international bankers over its industrial reforms, the Chinese government announced yesterday that it would be calling a summit in November to discuss reform of the financial sector, which, in many respects, remains stuck in the dark days of the Maoist era.

The announcement was made by the Chinese Vice-Premier, Zhu Rongji at a meeting on the fringe of the World/Bank International Monetary Fond

Conference in Hong Koog. Mr Zhu also announced that the government was backtracking on its decision to scrap tax breaks for capital goods imported by foreign companies

based in China. This follows a sharp drop in foreign investment this year, in part, triggered by fears that the climate for inward investment

was turning sour.

Mr Zhu implied that the reintroduction of tax exemptions was tied to China's longrunning struggle to gain entry to the World Trade Organisation [WTO].

"The timetable is not for us to decide, it's up to the WTO." he said

"What is urgent now," commeeted Mr Zhu, who is often described as China's Ecocomic Czar, "Is to set up a new investment system in which the roles of the government and the State enterprises are sepa-

He also spoke of the oeed to open up the financial sector

to greater compention. Mr Zhu eveo had good news specifically for British investors, saying that insurance companies from Britain and Australia were cext in line to

obtain the scarce licences required to establish operations China,

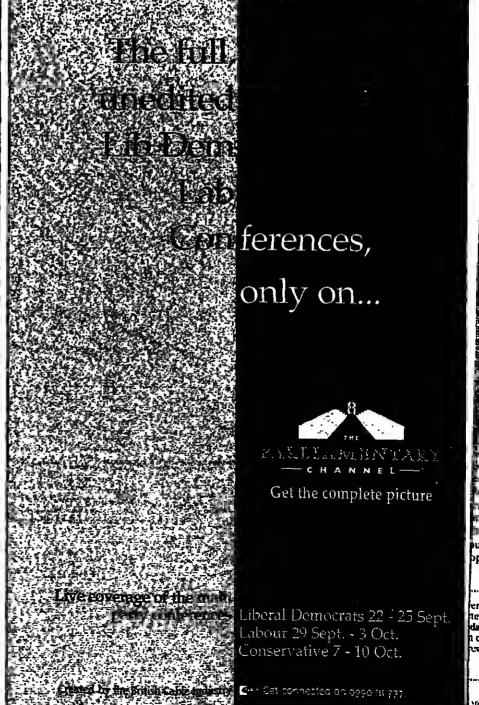
Referring to the turmoil in South-east Asian markets, Mr Zho stressed that the government was paying special attention to financial risk.

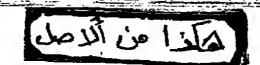
The new conference, he said, would take important decisions about strengthening the controls and supervision exercised by the central bank to

guard against risks. Foreign bonks, investment bouses and insurance companies are queueing up to get into China. Mr Zhu cautioned them

to "be patient". In case his point was missed be switched from Chinese to

English to make this remark. He told the assembled moneymen: "You ore welcome hut please don't come too quickly." - Stephen Vines





Blue chips throw party as BT puts £3bn in shareholders' pockets

MARKET REPORT



DEREK PAIN STOCK MARKET REPORTER OF THE YEAR

Blue chips surged to within was again unexciting and al- profits forecast £30m to tion immediately provoked an abrupt end - the shares fell lowed by £69m and then £75m. dialling distance of their small part by the largess of BT, the telephone giant still attracting criticism over its botched MCI takeover.

As part of the MCI package BT, up 5.5p to 411p, handed out a 35p special dividend. It was paid yesterday. together with an increased 11.95 p final. Through the two payments BT pumped more than £3bo into shareholders' accounts.

Most of the cash found its way into already overflowing institutional coffers, increasing the pressure on reluctant fund managers to join the stock market spree.

Although blue chips were in rousing form there was no evidence they have moved back into the market to any

also due to a strong New York display and firm government also lively, showing at one put on 25.5p to 843.5p. It is due time a 120-point premium to

of the day, up 51.9 points at the past, very much a bluechips party with second- and

the cash market.

third-liners limping behind. Superstores led the charge. thanks to bullish comments from UBS. J Sainsbury, teaming up with British Airways to offer cut price air fares in its latest bid at customer titillation, rose 18p to 465.5p; Tesco 16p to 475.5p; Asda 4.75p to 159.75p and Safeway 10.5p to

turned to equities the gain was through more quickly than

stocks. Futures activity was at last selling its computer side, to meet 60 analysts today and there are hopes it may have Footsie ended near its best more disposals on offer. The computer services business 5,075.7. It was, as so often in has been sold to its management for £89m, plus an £8m inter-company dividend.

Railtrack was back on the up line, 21p to 854p, another high. Associated British Foods, still thought to ourse predatory instincts towards Tate & Lyle, rose 13.5p to 564p. T&L sweetened 8.5p to

Laura Ashley, due to produce threadbare figures on Thursday, jumped 10.5p to

though the market was buoyed £710m. The securities house speculation of takeover action. record high, helped in oo by hopes of BT cash being re- believes the revival is coming A US strike is the favourite

A 4.75p gain to 190.25p by Granada, the leisure group British Steel was thought to be due to US interest and Coats Vivella, the textile group, was also an overseas target, up 5p

Biocompatibles International's hesitant rally came to



57.5p to 535p. And Menvier Alexandra Workwear hard-Swain, the electrical group, fell ened 15p to 94p following an 61p to 217p after chairman Tony McCann alerted shareholders that first-half profits would be "significantly" down. Increased loses lowered Innovative Technologies 26p to

Intriguingly, glassmaker Pilkington was again heavily traded. It was the secondbusiest share (after Shell) with Seaq putting turnover at more than 25 million with one 10.3 million deal going through at 150p. The price edged ahead 1.5p to 151.5p.

Chemical group British Vita improved 5p to 251.5p with a clutch of investment houses producing favourable comments. Dresdner Kleinwort Benson believes the shares are cheap and looks for

Alexandra Workwear hard-

upbeat trading statement and Instem, a computer group, jumped 30p to 205p. Chairman David Gare is leading a bid at 210p. He has acquired a 36. 2 per cent interest and commands 50.9 per cent. But there are murmurings of discootent. Several stockbrokers believe the price is far too low and are planning to press for

an improved offer. Sanderson Electronics, the software group, strengthened 9p to 92p after chairman Paul Thompsoo nudged his stake to 12.6 per cent. He picked up stock from the Singapore governmeot's pension fuods which are bailing out of smaller companies (Sanderson is capitalised at around £40m). Profits are expected to be

TAKING STOCK

Rentokil Initial, the business services group, plans a US investment roadshow next month. More than 22 per cent of its shares are held in the US. Meanwhile its Danish shareholder Sophus Berendsen is, in effect, handing out 32 per cent of Rentokil's capital to its shareholders through an investment trust which will be traded on the Copenhagen stock market. Rentokil rose 2p to 254.5p.

Hostilities have broken out at European Mining Finance. A meeting has been called to oust three directors, including chief executive Christopher Hall. Gordon Montgomery and John Goodger are put forward as replacements. But the action could extend beyond the present spat. Irish Marine Oil, Petrel and Hereward Mining are thought to be circling.

	back into the market to any 395.5p significant extent. Turnover UB	Thursd: S lifted its Sainsbury 64.5p in	ay, jumped 10.5p to 300 abusy trading. The ac-	NDJFMAMJJAS	shares are cheap and looks for profits of £63m this year; for	r Profits are expected to be and an E7.5m against £6.2m. E	re thought to be circling. MF held at 20p.
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Global deflation could provide the next big shock



HAMISH **MCRAE** WORLD **ECONOMICS** Cycles, shocks, yes, we know about those trade. Enrope and North America are to anyone seriously interested in investment and they will soon start discussing the present state of the economic cycle in different countries - that America for example has completed seven years of decent growth, or the way in which Japan has failed to escape from the last downturn.

Part of the justification for the continuing boom in US shares is that the husiness cycle, though not dead, seems to be more muted than it was in the 1970s and 1980s.

This sort of debate was behind the alarm that greeted the purchase last week by Warren Buffett, the legendary US investor, of a large line of fixed-interest securities. Was he indicating that the share price boom in the US was over and people should therefore shift to bonds?

More of that in a moment. When they are not puzzling about the state of the cycle investors frequently ponder the likely shocks that might disrupt their view of the world. The best-known, perhaps, are the two oil shocks which on two occasions quadrupted the price of oil, but there have been many others. We have had one of those shocks this summer with the collapse of currencies and share prices in East Asia, a fitting background to the IMF and World Bank meetings taking place this week in Hong Kong.

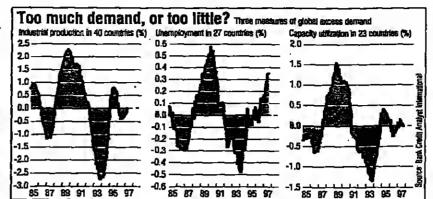
The practical question this shock raises is whether it is serious enough to damage world economic growth. The conventional versible transformation of the world-(and probably correct) response to that is that, on its own, disruption in East Asia is not likely to have a systemic impact beyond the region because the economics affected lieve this process will step up several

- but what about the long-term trend? Talk therefore unlikely to be affected, except insofar as some exports will be lost and a tot of investments will be worth less than their owners previously thought.

But were the downturn to spread to Japan, the impact might become quite serious, as the Japanese economy is not in any shape to withstand a fall in its exports, and East Asia has been its fastest-growing market. For a start it might further nodermine the yen, one of the serious con-cerns voiced at the IMF/World Bank meetings, and Japan might be forced to switch the export drive even more towards the US and Europe, areas with which it already has what the Americans at least feel is an unacceptably large current account sur-

So these are perfectly legitimate things for investors to fret about. The state of the space of mind to trying to understand whether we are also experiencing a big global turning point in the very long term trends of the world economy. How might we look back on the last years of this century in another generation's time? Two cootributions on this theme seem worth a wider audience.

The McKinsey Quarterly, the journal of the management consultants, has just carried an article by Jane Fraser and Jeremy Oppenheim, which argues that globalisation is about to cause a 50-year irreeconomy. The world, they argue, has already become vastly more international over the last few decades, but they now heare not that large yet in relation to global gears. As management consultants, they see



this in terms of its impact on company or - industrial production, unemployment and ganisation, as companies wanting to operate on a truly global scale will have to cycle and the potential shocks matter a lot. change their management structures. But But I think that is also worth devoting some of course, if they are right, there are also profound implications for financial markets. If we really believe that we are at the beginning of a couple of geoerations of secure, sustained economic growth, then the whole investment outlook is qualitatively different from the volatile world of the last half century.

> The other contribution comes from the latest edition of The International Bank Credit Analyst, from the Montreal-based economic consultants, BCA Publications. Much of the work of BCA is based on cyclical analysis, but a loog-term question emerges from this: are we facing global de-

> Start with the simpler question; is there excess demand in the world? The BCA team has taken three measures of demand

capacity utilisation - from as many countries as it can conveniently collect data and calculated whether the world economy as a whole is on track. The results are shown in the graph, and as you can see it looks pretty much as though everything is evenly balanced. Industrial production and capacity utilisation are very close to balance. while the nnemployment measure shows a modest amount of excess demand.

BCA however believes that while the main economies could tilt either way the balance of probability inclines to disinflation. There are no strong signs of inflation at a global level and the events in Southeast Asia will be disinflationary as a rapidly-growing part of the world will tend to grow more slowly.

If this is right, it is pretty remarkable.

of growth on the Continent. Yet there are no signs of inflation at a producer price level, even in economies which have been growing fast. British producer prices are up only 1.4 per cent over the last year, while US are down 0.4 per cent. If we can sustain this sort of growth with so little inflation think what might happen when growth comes off. Indeed the world as a whole may well be moving to an era when price stability becomes the norm, and when there are long periods - as there were in the last century - when the tong-term trend is for world prices to fall.

Is this global deflation really likely? I don't know the answer but I know the question matters enormously. The world "deflation" has an alarming ring to it, awaking folk-memories of the 1930s Depression. But from any perspective other than the 1930s a period of deflation could be accompanied by solid economic growth. Perhaps we are facing just such a period.

If this proves right, there are profound implications for investors. Bonds will be good investments; there will be few windfall gains from surges in property prices; equities will depend on the earning power of the underlying assets, rather than gaining much of their value as a hedge against inflation. Workers would get much of their higher real wages in the form of falling prices, as is happening in computers and telecommunications charges at the moment, rather than higher wages.

Meanwhile it is hard for us to think in terms of stable prices, let alone falling ones. But it is no harder than it was for people We have experienced a long period of brought up on the second half of the last growth in the US (and almost as long in century to come to terms with the chaos the UK) and are starting to see more signs of the first balf of this one.

PEOPLE & BUSINESS

IOHN WILLCOCK



The new Lord Mayor of London to be elected next Monday will be Richard Nichols, a solicitor from Watford. Mr Nichols, an Alderman for the Candlewick ward in the Cannon Street area of the City, has already been given the nod to take over from the incumbent,

Sir Roger Cork. Mr Nichols will probably be the last Lord Mayor to be elected in this way, by a meeting of the Liverymen in the Guildhall, since the Corporation proposed to reform its election procedures two weeks ago. These proposals are a response to Labour threats to abolish the Corporation unless it opens itself up to more voters.

Bearing this in mind, Mr Nichols' election might raise eyebrows in government ranks, since he was originally elected alderman in 1984 with just seven votes. This certainly puts the Welsh referendum figures into perspective.

Mr Nichols beat into second place Peter Levene, who scored six votes. The other candidate Christopher Mitchell got five.

Coincidentally, Peter Levene (now Lord Levene) will also run for election as Lord Mayor alongside Mr Nichols on Monday - but the former is preordained to come second, the way these things are run.

due to wait another year before taking his turn in the mayoral ermine.

The Corporation is proposing to democratise itself by increasing its franchise from around 20,000 to over 50,000, mainly by introducing a "business vote". It has a long way to go, Mr Nichols' ward of Candelwick currently has a grand total of 87 non-residential voters - and just 2 residential vot-

on the wrong side of Sir Roger Cork while he was Lord Mayor had better watch out. When Lord Levene, former de... he passes the baton on in Oc- managing director, clearly saw

ex-head of Canary Wharf, is inal career - as a receiver for journalists: "I can't stay for accountants Moore Stephens. You have been warned.

> Patrick Ponsolle, co-chairman of Eurotunnel, was busy railing against the latest anti-tunnel piece in the press yesterday.

The disconsolate Frenchman said: "I was not feeling totally at ease [this morning] because we were going to have a press conference where there was nonews. In fact I was feeling close to nervous."

Sure enough the FT stepped in with a piece saying a new crisis was looming for Eurotunnel: Georges-Christian Chazot,

questions. I have to go to Waterloo on the back of a motorbike. It's something I haven't done for 50 years."

A couple of marketing consultants who specialise in advising accountancy firms have come up with a novel wheeze - The Marketing Correspondence

Cookbook. Imagine my disappointment, however, when I discovered that, far from containing recipes for "Audit Strogannoff" and "Seared leaves of VAT on a bed of SSAP 21", it contained 150 pages of advice on how to use direct mail to win new ac-

Gordon Gilchrist only recently teamed up with Christian Frederiksen to form Buckinghamshire-based Frederiksen Gilchrist. Together they claim to lecture to over 4,500 accountancy firms a year. Sounds exciting.

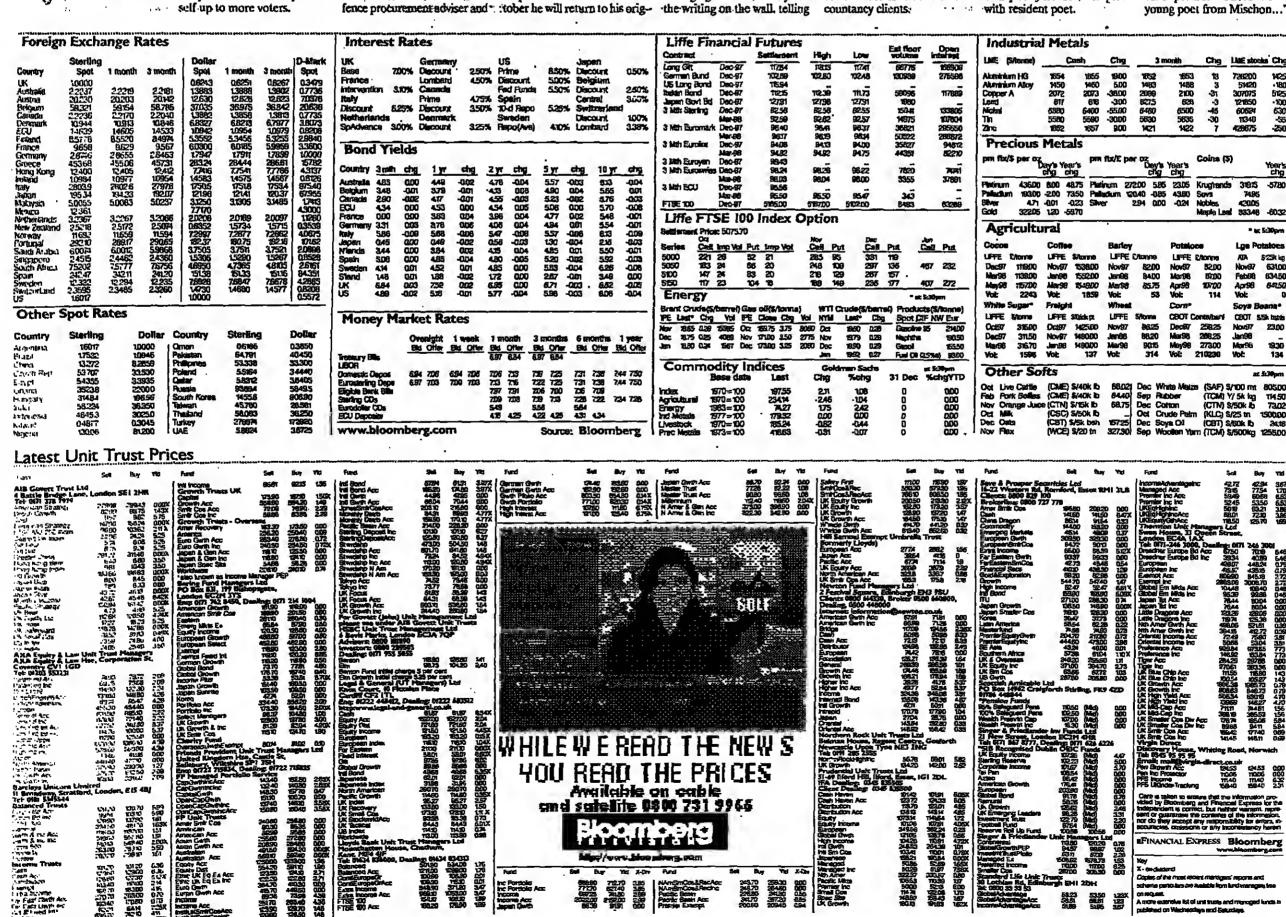
"Additionally," they add. we are proud to boast a rooster (sic) of clients well in excess of 1,000 firms." No wonder

It's not just the accountancy profession that is getting a tad eccentric. City law firm Mischon de Reya claims to be the first to have introduced its own poetry corner, complete with resident poet.

Mischon partners Jonathan Cameron and Anthony Julius decided recently that the arid world of legal debate needed brightening up, and invited poet Lavinia Greenlaw to spend half-a-day a week at the firm's Southampton Row offices, according to The Lawyer

magazine, Ms Greenlaw beat 60 other candidates to the job, and she hopes to bold regular workshops for hudding versifiers in the firm.

In the spirit of things, I launch the People & Business Limerick competition. Complete the following, on a postcard please: "There was a



Available on cable and satellite 0800 731 9965

28/CRICKET

A season full of drama and intrigue

England may have lost the Ashes series to Australia, but two Test victories, a thrilling finish to the County Championship and plenty to talk about off the field made it a cricket season to remember. Derek Pringle looks back at the best and worst of 1997.

Even before a ball had been bowled, the 1997 season managed to begin with a provocative "Howzai". In its best stentorian tone, the Wisden Almanack put cricket's fading appeal down to the fact that it was "élitist, exclusionist and dull." In fact, the summer ended anything but, as emotions were kept on tenterbrooks right up until the last Saturday, when Glamorgan pipped Kent to the Britannic Assurance

County Championship. In any case, with the Australians touring, such claims were always likely to be put under pressure and only a wet June and July dampeoed the cricket-lover's cothusiasm. Add to that England's storming wins that book-ended the Ashes series: Michael Atherton's dingdong battle with himself over the Eogland captaincy; as well Derbyshire and Lancashire, and the season actually had more drama and intrigue than many of the better soaps.

For some, the only damp squib, apart from once again be- a cricketing fact. ing trounced by the Aussies (a

have been the intransigence shown by the majority of county clubs in the face of change, as envisioned by the England and Wales Cricket Board's blueprint "Raising the Standard."

A two divisional Championship may sound very neat, but it would be a change not for the better of cricket, but for the sake of television. How could it be the former when a club's Test players would be available for less that balf the matches and then forced to play against their better judgement in the other

It is one thing to run firstclass cricket as a business, but quite another to shape and distort a 250-year old game to order to pander to those with hig bank accounts, "I'll be anything you want me to be, so long of prostitution, not perfection. Something the Aussies should remember with their latest gimmicky twelve-a-side nonsense.

Back out in the middle, Glamorgan certainly deserved their success. Left virtually uodisturbed by Test calls, they had probably the best balanced attack - an attack made even more lethal by Wagar Younis, one of the most destructive fast bowlers in the world.

Ever since pitches were covered, it has been bowlers who have generally won four and fiveas the internecine bickering at day matches. Glamorgan, however, with a nice batting mix of the orthodox and the furious, were twice blessed, and able to score their runs fast ecough to ensure that this tenet remained

Australia work in much the fair and expected result), would same way, their ultra-positive Nottinghamshire, no doubt via sions, England, returning to tually brought forward the last



as you pay the money," smacks A season of occasional triumph and frequent strife: Michael Atherton after being dismissed in the Trent Bridge Test

outlook helping to contribute to a geoerous sponsor, will have to character, were both meek and

Test in six. What a great exam-Overseas players, despite ple Steve Waugh, Matthew Elliott, Glenn McGrath and Shane ame set as England's cemesis. McGrath, in particular, oo

pitches he would rarely have eocountered, easily outbowled his English counterparts, His haul of 36 wickets simply showed all aspiring seam bowlers, short of express pace, what can be achieved with dedication and

a series that saw just one drawn

As ever, rumours of Warne's demise proved unfouoded and he was a handful on all hut the slowest surfaces. He has been cleared by the Australian Cricket Board to play in England oext

pay handsomely for his services.

becoming increasingly expensive to run, remaio popular. Waqar (whose salary cost Giamorgan around £100,000), Stuart Law at Essex, Paul Strang with runners-up Kent and Darreo Lehmann with Yorkshire all served their counties well.

Having skinned the Aussies in the Texaco matches, and in the first Test at Edgbaston, England's expectations were not unnaturally heightened. Indeed, after the near miracle of The Oval, 3-2 may look as if the gap may have narrowed. Unfortunately it probably has not and, when it came to producing year, wheo either Sussex or the goods in the pressure ses-

erratic.

Australia on the other hand, once they had woken up, played with Cyclopian purpose. With one bold decisioo against the consensus - when he decided to bat first on a damp greentop at Old Trafford - Mark Taylor, Australia's much-criticised captain, gave his side the wherewithal to turn the series around.

Whether reckless gamble or leader's intuition, it was a brave choice hy a brave man, and one that undoubtedly helped per-. suade Athertoo - a nib leogth away from writing his resignation statement - to continue as England's leader in the West Indies.

It was this age-old battle between beart and head that even-

disintegrated into an appalling hurrah of Graham Gooch, Esfinale of sloppiness. sex, who managed to win the NatWest final against War-

It is this apparent lack of pride and general apathy towards performance towards the end of the season that is the cornerstone of those who want two divisions. Io keeping with other counties which own Test grounds, Surrey share that view. Perhaps their team were unwittingly backing up their committee's point. If so, maybe one could understand why the ECB sought Surrey's assurances about their willingness to try in last week's Champ-

Photograph: David Ashdown

ionship decider with Kent. For those who prefer contrariness to conspiracy, though, 1997 was your year. In a season which began by threatening revolution, the beer, as John Major once put it, is still warm.

Cairns digs in to save day for **New Zealand**

pettori

AND THE STATE OF THE STREET OF THE STATE OF

Zimbabwe 298 & 31i-9 dec New Zealand 207 & 304-8 Match drawn

Chris Cairus yesterday salvaged a draw for New Zealand against Zimbabwe on the final day of the first Test in Harare with an innings of monumental patience.

Cairus batted for four hours and 20 minutes to score an undefeated 71 and see his side to safety. The last hour of the match was tense as New Zealand, seven wickets down, needed Cairns to shepherd the tail.

Daniel Vettori survived 50 minutes before he fell to a bat and pad catch. That brought in the debutant Shayne O'Connor to negotiate the final 25 minutes against the leg spio of Paul Strang and Adam Huckle in fading light. New Zealand survived, though, to reach 304 for Sat the close after resuming on 64 for 2

Cairns came in six overs before lunch with New Zcaland on 116 for 4, having been set an unlikely victory target of 403. The opener Blair Pocock went in the first over after the interval to reduce the visitors to a perilous 122 for 5. Partnerships of 78 with Adam Parore and 66 with Chris Harris took up two hours and 40 minutes to slow Zimbabwe's progress to what would have been only their second Test

Final day, New Zealand won toes NEW ZEALANO - First Innings 207 (S P

8-234 Bowling: Streak 21-9-52-2; B Strang 26-10-56-2; Writtel 5-1-19-0; P Strang 42-17-76-1; Huckle 31-9-84-3; Rennie 3-1-5-0.

PHILIPS



Today we publish the latest results of The Independent Fantasy Football League. The player scores are calculated on all games played up to and including September 21st. The league table includes the scores from all games played until September 14th.

Every time one of your players score you get four points. There are four points for a keeper or a defender every time their team er is given a Red Card they lose 3 points. Own goals, either keeps a dean sheet. If a player scores the winning goal, i.e.: if scored or conceded, do not count. there is a one goal difference in the scoreline, the player scorawarded in addition to standard goal related points. Each successful Assist, a pass judged by our experts to lead directly to a goal, will give a player 3 points. The opinion of our experts on the matter is final. Each player selected and starting a game

will be awarded one point.

If a player is given a Yellow Card they lose 1 point, if a play-

wickshire - their first trophy

without the maestro - do not

know how lucky they have been.

For the past 20 years, Gooch's

dedication, let alone his class as

a hatsman, have been leg-

eodary, an attitude he has late-

ly transferred to his new role as

However, such unquestion-

ing devotion to duty is rare. If

it was not, theo clubs like Der-

hyshire and Surrey would be

achieving far more oo the field.

Having provided the country-

with the smouldering Hollioake

brothers, one of whom, Ben,

then weot oo to win the Benson

and Hedges Cup final virtually

single-handedly, Surrey's season

an England selector.

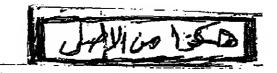
The Premiership Manager that you choose will be awarding the final goal for the winning team is awarded I bonus point ed 3 points if their real-life team wins, I point is awarded if they draw and no points are given if they lose.

> Updated player scores and league tables will be published every Tuesday in The Independent and repeated the following Sunday in the Independent on Sunday.



OVERALL SCORE CALCULATED ON MATCHES PLAYED FROM 8 AUGUST - 21 SEPTEMBER I FACILE TABLE

LEAGUE TABLE				- Idea	156
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I Mr Chris Ewins I've Scarced But Will I Finish 3i I Mr Phil Tufler Pin Ups 4 3i	2 307 Watson BAR 9 1,1 2 308 Losse BAR 0 2 1,0	465 Lehocuf CHE -3 14' 5.0	570 Dichs WH 0 0 3.5	687 Lengon LEI 5 3.2 688 Guppy LEI 4 17 1.7	853 Ndah CRY 0 0 1.0 854 Shipperley CRY 0 1 2.0
I Mr David Evans Ouzing End Blues 3	NA Flowers BLA 5 7 51	465 Lehocul CHE -3 14 5.0 466 Sandair CHE 0 13 2.5 467 Daint COV 0 0 2.7	573 Rieper WH 0 12 27 574 Hall WH 0 0 3.0	689 Barries NEW 6 7 3.0 . 690 Reddinapp LIV 0 0 5.2	854 Shipperley CRY 0 1 2.0 855 Ward BAR 1 4 2.5
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5 Mr Chris Thomas Scunthorpe Extras 30		474 Gardon CP 5 18 2.0 (580 Curmingham. WIM I 6 15	697 Beckham MAN 0 19 7.0 698 Keane MAN 1 14 7.0	860 Denne
8 Mr B Srai The Uncouchables 30	Z 310 Day CP 0 0 1.0	476 Tunic CP 5 11 20 477 Linighum CP 5 16 20 478 Roberts CP 5 15 3.0	583 Thatcher WTM: 0 0 20	699 Butt MAN 11 70	864 Hasslebank LEE 1 12 3.0 865 Claridge LEI 0 2 3.5 806 Huskey LEI 0 15 5.5
9 Mr Ian Down The Ruffus 30	340 Poom OER 1 9 12 11 343 Hoult OER 0 0 16	477 Linigham CP 5 16 2.0 478 Roberts CP 5 13 3.0	SSS Kirchie WIM 0 8 L5	700 Poborski MAN 5 3.5 703 Lee NEW 0 3 3.6	865 Claridge LEI 0 2 3.5 806 Huskey LEI 0 15 5.5 867 Fowler LIV 0 0 9.5
9 Mr Mike Ewins Mikes C Team 30	0 344 Switted EVE 0 7 3.0	479 Hireldresson CP 5 5 1.0 480 Stimus DER 0 7 33	MIDFIELDERS		868 Berger LIV 0 0 4.0
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Il Mr A Mitchell The Eye For It 30	- 151 Warmer 1TV 0 0 10	487 Short EVE 1 7 330 488 Warson EVE 1 13 27		730 Whittingham SW L 7 1.7	876 Nevland MAN 0 0 20
II Mr Michael Rickard Alter Lamberg 30	0. 354 Schmeichel MAN 5 31 55	480 Unsworth WH I 5 3.0 490 Hinchefiffe EVE 4 6 3.5	697 Mendez Rodriguez ARS 0 0 20	733 Carbonic SW 0 17 3.0 734 Maghon SW 1 6 2.4	878 Asprilla NEW 0 0 100 NEW 4 14 7.4
16 Mr David Ashton Billy Boys Third II 29	0 354 Schmeichel MAN 5 31 55 9 355 Van Der Gore MAN II 0 1.2 356 Given NEW 5 12 25	493 Bite EVE 1 7 - 40		734 Magdiou SW 1 6 2.4 738 Slater SOU 0 2 1.5 736 Calley SOU 1 4 1.2 737 Anderton TOT 0 0 6.0	879 Ferdinand TOT 0 21 50
77 Mr Abdul Choudi Nickles Ninth II 29	357 Histop NEW (1 0 2.5 358 Pressuan SW 5 15 3.0		430 Draper AV -1 17 4.1	736 Cakkey SOU 4 1.2 737 Anderton TOT 0 6.0 738 Fox TOT 14 3.5	880 Tomasson NEW 0 5 4.0 883 Gudjonson NEW 0 6 2.0 884 Humphreys SHEF 0 2 25 885 Booth SHEF 0 6 3.5
17 Mr David Baker XPS Rules 29	8 358 Pressman SW 5 15 3.0 2 359 Tantor SOU 0 0 1.8	496 Moleman LEE -1 8 25	633 Marcelle BAR 0 2 20 634 Bullock BAR 0 3 12	738 Fox TOT 14 3.5	884 Humphreys SHEF 0 2 25 865 Booth SHEF 0 6 3.5
19 Mr David Baker Dead Beat 29	2 360 Beasant SOU 0 0 1.0	497 Dorago LEE 0 0 - 12 - 498 Rohertson LEE 1 6 2.5 -	635 Redicers BAR 5 23, 15	739 Howells - TOT 1 6 3.2 740 Gunola - TOT 1 5 3.5	985 Booth SHEF 0 6 3.5 886, Hirst SHEF 1 3 3.5
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2/ Mr Tom Lyons Diana's Demons 29		505 Wright LIV - 1 10 3.0 506 Ruddock LIV 0 1 10	643 Sharwood BLA 0 3 22 1 644 Filteron BLA 0 4 10	748 Bestrop WH 0 II 25 749 Bertsone WH 1 IB 2.5	894 Hartson Wif I 22 5.0
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25 Mr Mike Ewists Mikes D Team 29	5 403 Upon ARS 0 0 20 4 404 Peni ARS 1 14 42	508 Krarme LIV 0 6 15 SUP Bjornebye LIV 4 12 25	647 Polices BOL 1 9 28 .	753 Jones Wilm 1 3 28	897 Ekoka 97M 1 12 40
26 Mr Mike Ewins Mikes E Team 29	3 406 Grimends ARS -1 12 27	530 Matter LtV 1 1 30	648 Selfman 14 15	754 Earle WIM 0 4 3.1 755 Ardley WiM 0: 14 - 2.0	898 Gayle WIM 1 8 4.0 899 Euch WIM 0 6 15
26 Mr Mike Ewins Mikes B Team 29	3 407 Bould ARS 0 6 25	534 G Nevelle MAN S 21 27	649 Gullin CHE 0 0 44 650 Dr Mattee CHE 1 12 50 651 West CHE 0 10 37 654 Newton CHE 0 11 24 655 Phoges CHE 0 11 24 655 Phoges CHE 0 10 13 657 Refer COV 1 10 18 658 Richardson CHE 0 1 15 658 Richardson COV 1 7 30 661 Salako COV 1 10 24 650 Salako COV 0 0 20 664 Sintpoon DER 0 1 12 665 Asanovir DER 0 4 31	756 Feer WIM 6 / 20	
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29 Mr Mike Mitchell Enduring Image 29	433 Southeste AV 14 5.2 434 Ehioga AV 18 3.0	538 May MAN 0 0 35.	655 P Heghes CHE 2 - L0	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	903 Little AV 3 4 5 11 904 Wilson BAR () 6 2 11
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29 Mr Trevor Russ Sammy's Soccer Scorchers 29	11 435 Neboo AV 4 II 1.2 436 Wright AV 1 13 AD 437 Sennees AV 0 1 22 437 Sennees AV 0 12 22 6 438 Grawon AV 0 12 22 439 Movies BAR 1 11 15 440 Appleby BAR 1 8 211	SIS Affect NEW 5 13 41	658 Richardson SOU 1 5 14 659 McAllister COV 7 3.0	I SIM Hommitte Pereira ARS 0 0 20 1	906 Todd BOL 1 6 15
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36 Mr Chris Sunker Berkam United 28	THE KOZEG BAR II II III	549 Notan 50 5 15 10	100 D Power DER (1 II 17	830 Hriston BAR -1 7 15	934 Graham LEE D 7 35
37 Miss Lisa Wild Ameretto AFC 28	5 446 Le Same CHF 12 50	550 Atherion SW 5 12 1.9	f68 Dailly TER 1 1	833 Sutton 21.A 1 36 45 834 Gallacher BLA 0 38 3,0	935 O'Nei0 LEI 3 II 45 936 Evans LIV I 9 70
38 Mr Martin Pawley Roberts Rovers 28	447 Coleman BLA 0 0 30	550 Atherior SW 5 12 1.9 553 Walker SW 5 15 14 554 Stefanowic SW 0 0 1.6	668 Dailly DER 4 12 669 Ituni- OER 4 20 670 Parkinson EVE 0 0 1.6	STS Debite BLA 1 11 40	937 Ferruson MAN 17 nm
38 Mr Stuart Scott Unbeatable 28	448 Hendry BLA 5 19 4.4 4 449 Kenna BLA 5 19 10	222 NOWNINE SW 5 15 15 1	673 Grant. EVE 0 (1 1,6	836 McGinlay BOL 1 2 22 837 Blake BOL -2 18 27	93K Dalgish NEW 3 4 7/0
38 Mr. J. Furmess Red Star Silver 28	450 Hemelies BLA 5 17 20	556 Monkou SOU J 16 1.7 557 Dodd SOU L 9 . 25	674 Farrelly EVE 0 2 20	838 Zola . CHE 5 8 90	040 Jones will 1
	455 Valent ALA I I4 341 454 Anderson ALA II 4 341	557 Dodd SOU 9 - 25 558 Benoil SOU 0 8 15	669 Hunti- OER 4 20 670 Parkinson EVE 0 0 1/6 673 Grant- EVE 0 0 22 674 Farreby EVE 0 2 20 675 Specier EVE 1 16 25 676 Specier EVE 9 13 27	839 Visilis CHE 1 22 3.5 840 M Hughes CHE 3 12 4.4	943 Frances TOT 1 8 45



29/RACING

Dettori admits title is out of reach

As the first anniversary of his seven-race winning sequence at Ascot looms. Frankie Dettori reflects on how his life was changed that day and how this year's jockeys' championship has slipped from his grasp. Richard Edmondson reports

and the second

They sat him un a donkey yesterday and he would have won on that at last year's Festival Of British Raciog. Frankie Dettori's feet almust touched the ground for the first time since he rode all seven winners at Ascot 12 months ago this weekend as he straddled a little grey beast appropriately named Nutmeg.

Racing Spice, yesterday ruled out his chances of reclaiming the jockeys' championship, which must mean he is nul going to win it because he was rather more upbcat about replicating the unique feat of 28 September, 1996. "I have gol some good rides on Saturday and while I know the chances are very slim that I'll do it acain I will be trying," Dettori

chance in the championship. I'm being realistic because I've got haven't got time to catch Kieren

I will be trying again next year."

The year that Dettori completes on Saturday has been the most memorable of his life. He left behind bachelorhood and any notion that he could wander in any city unnoticed. "Riding seveo winners was fanstart of a new life for me, not it too," he said. "My life changed a lot, mostly for the new doors

new doors in the wide world and vehicle in the Diadem Stakes, he				
Queen Eli	zabet	h II Stake	s (lm)	
Horse (Dainer)	Coral	William Hig	Ladbrokes	Total
Entrepreneur (M Stoute)	7-4	7-4	7-4	2-1
Plevoque (P Chapple Hyam)	5-2	3-1	7-4	3-1
Bahhare (J Dunlop)	9-2	5-1	9-2	11-2
Altied Forces (Sused bin Suroot)	5-1	5-1	6-1	7-2
Air Express (C Britten)	14-1	14-1	12-1	14-1
Centre Stells (R Johnson Houghton)	10-1	8-1	14-1	7-1
Rebecca Sharp (G Wragg)	25-1	16-1	25-1	25-1
Bijou D'Inde (M Johnston)	25-1	33-1	33-1	20-1
Faithful Son (M Strute)	33-1	8-1	20-1	25-1

Each-way a 6th the oricle, places, 1, 2, 3 (Ascot, Saturday)

"Last winter I embarked on a world tour with Peter Burrell, a six-day suspension and I my manager, thinking I'd ride a little bit and just have some [Fallon]. Good luck to him and fuo and see some different countries. But everywhere we Sham, and Saturday's renewal went there was an amazing re-

action from the racing public." Dettori appeared at Ascot yesterday in the piercing blue silks of Godolphin which he wore on four of his successful missions last year. The team tastic and the day after was the from Arabia are likely to provide him with a similar number of oponly in horseracing but outside portunities on Saturday. While the recent Newbury winner, John Gosden's Russian Revival, good, and that day opened up is considered the Italian's best

said, "But as far as I am con-cerned I have absolutely on nised everywhere. I get recog-foodolphin's Allied Forces in the back from two o'clock to five Godolphin's Allied Forces in the back from two o'clock to five pinnacle of the weekend, the Queen Elizabeth II Stakes. This was a compelling event last season, when Mark Of Esteem beat the noble filly Bosra

> RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Fair Game (Nottingham 4.15) NB: Maladerie

looks pale by comparison. Nine horses were declared yesterday and Allied Forces certainly does not appear a tramp at the feast despite a record of just one win from four outings this year.

(Nottingham 3.45)

"I doo't think the milers are as good as last year," Dettori observed. "You have to fear the horses that are coming back, such as Revoque and Entrepreneur, but they still bave a lot to prove. My horse is proven and he hasn't run a bad race this year. I have a great chance."

Bookmakers are expecting a volley of bets blindly supporting Dettori, from outcases (including some of the same outcases who won £500,000 last year). Frankie is expecting a day rich area this Saturday afternoon.

o'clock that day it was like a three-day event," he said. "The first event was the Queen Elizabeth, and when I won that I'd forgotten I'd also ridden the first two. My next ambition was to win the big bandicap, the only race I hadn't won at the Festival, so Decorated Hero was another big achievement. By the time I got to the last I fell as though I was

"It oever really entered my mind that I was going to win the last race which was probably why I did wio it. When a jockey is hot it makes a difference.

embarking on my third day.

When I watch the video of the day I still get goosepimples. It was one of those occasions you oever think is going to happen. When I watch it oo the tape. It doesn't seem like it was me that did that. It was like someone had done a movie of it.

"It's going to he very emotional going back and I'm really looking forward to it. I am very excited about seeing the reaction of the people." The reciprocal feeling from racegoers will make one corner of Berkshire a particularly populated



Dettori: Back in the winners' enclosure at Ascot yesterday

NOTTINGHAM

2.15 Shimaal

HYPERION 4.15 Fair Game 4.45 Flashtalkin' Flood (nb) 5.15 STONED IMACULATE (nap) 2.45 Burning Truth 3.15 Final Tango 3.45 Maladerie

GOING: Good to Firm. STALLS: 51 & 61 - stands side: rest - inside

DRAW ADVANTAGE: High for 51 & 61,

Left-hand, oval course, Flat and galloping with easy turns,
 Course is 2m E of city off 8686. Nottinghem station 2m. ADMISSION: Outo \$12 (June 1987).

ntors. 16-21 years, CB); Tattersalls CB, Silver Ring & Paddock CA, CAR PARK; Silver Ring £12 (admits car plus four occupants), remainder free. ♠ LEADING TRAINERS: J Dunlop ~ 20 winners from 114 runners gives a success ratio

of 175%; H Cocil - 19-67 (264%); Mrs J Ramaden - 14-88 (16.9%); Sir M Prescott -♠ LEADING JOCKEYS: K Fallon - 23 winners from 147 rides gives a success ratio of

156%; G Duffield - 20-129 (155%), T Sprake - 18-127 (14.2%); M Hills - 19-80 (16.3%). FAVOURITES: 237 wms from 688 races (344%). BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Silver Secret (visored) (345), Middle East (345), White Settler

(3.45), Fortune Hunter (visored) (4.45), Arisaig (5.15), Alagna (5.15). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None

LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Loublit Lane (215) has been sent 222 miles by A Newcombe

2.15 EBF RNIB MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £4,750 added 2YO fulles 1m 54yds Penalty Value £3,774

SO PRISABA (18) (Advantured Speed) M Johnston 8 11 D Holland 4
ON CALL (Checkly Park Stud) So M Prescott 8 15 Sendors 12
SAMBUING ROSE (14) (Sr Evelyn De Induschish) M Saule 8 11 J Baild 3
SAMBAA (12) (Goologha) Seed bin Surgor 6 11 J J Carroll 6
O) SWEET DREAMS (19) (Mes K Rausing) J Durlop 8 11 J Carroll 6
C) TRIMITY REEF (26) (Hesmands Stud) J Durlop 8 11 G Center 10
TRIMITY REEF (26) (Hesmands Stud) J Durlop 8 11 K Fellon 13

FORM GMIDE

FORM GMIDE

The Chevelory Park colours will be carried by Sir Mark Prescott's newcorner, ON CALL, a fifty by Altrond out of a Spectacular lad mare. The stable's runners have won here at a rate of more than one in diver for the past two seasons, and the yeard is back on song diter a shalpy period. Shifmael was easy to back on her introduction when just under two longths behind Astronalications even furiongs at Newmarket, and could well improve for the experience and over the extra furiong. Back in fourth was Henry Ceol's at Lingfield. Ceol mas a high strike-rate here with two-year-olds but they tend to start at prohibitive prices. With the kieren Fallon bandwagen picking up speed, Ceol's newcorner Tuning is unlikely to offer anything in the way of value. Rembling Rose was besten only half a length over course and distance earlier in the month but this looks a potentially tougher heat. Outle a few of David Loder's two-year-olds are improving for a first run but a market move for Algantic should not be ignored.

2.45 DHL MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,200 added 1m 54yds Penalty Value £4,154

(I	MAICHAMAE (FOW) (14) (SACAN GENERAL CORREST - 24"
00600	BEAU TUDOR (6) (Mrs A Wyord Mess L Social 3 6 0 M Wighten
33272	BURNING THUTH (USA) (66) (K Abdulah) R Charles 390 T Speaks
CO	JAZA (122) (Paul G Jecobs) N Grahom 3 8 0
00	MOONSHIFT (136) (C V Lines) H Collegedge 3 6 0
90	NITE OWLER (3) (Burntwood Sports Ltd) J O'Reily 59 D
ندن	OCCAM (120) (N H Morrow) G Wingg S 8 0
6	ON MERIT (48) (Northern Bloodslock Racing S Golings 3 9 0
	BURNLEY BELLE (29) (A W Boon) LI Chernon \$ 8 13
	MORTHERN BLESSING (The Tricke Apostos) P Harts 389
	= 10 declared
ETTING: 54	5 Burning Truth, 4-1 Waterwave, 7-1 Northern Blessing, 16-1 Occum, 33-1 Bess 7

BETTING: 5-6 Burning Truth, 4-1 Wateryeve, 7-1 Northern Bleasing, 16-1 Occum, 33-1 Blead nudot, Burning Belle, Jaza, Moonshill, Mile Dwier, On Merit
1996 Cassen 3 9 9 M Nr. 11-2 (E During) drain (9) 15 rat
FORM GUIDE

Sull a mouden after six runs, Burning TRUTH has been admirably consistent. Roger
Charlions, Known Fact both has run a series of good reces at around a mile, John Goodon's Wasterwave was the stable's second string when eighth of 19 behind stablement
Sucho In a rack in which half the field both unitedly to ever win a race, the high River both
Sucho In a rack in which half the field both unitedly to ever win a race, the high River both
Could be the one to take advantage of Burning Truth deseponts. Newcomer Northern
Could be the one to take advantage of Burning Truth deseponts. Newcomer Northern
Blessing is licen an in-form yard with an excellent record with horses running first time
Selection: SURNING TRUTH

3.15 MSAS CARGO INTERNATIONAL MELA-027 (CLASS D) £4,600 added 2YO fillies 6f £4,027 MSAS CARGO INTERNATIONAL MAIDEN STAKES 00 PEY HOUGE (147) (A & Hip R Hollinshead B 11.

	H NAL TANGO (Mrs C A Westers) J Gosphen B TI
22	KCHTEYAAR (USA) (13) (BP) (Hamdan Al Makhoum) R Armstrong B 11 R Hats 11
	IMPLICITLY (Buckram Osk Holdings) W Jarve 8 11
	MAHAB (USA) (Godslohir) Speed by Surpor 6 11 Field 10
0	MERCH PHYD-Y-GRUG (6) (D L Williams) D Williams B 11 P Cleary (7) 6
0	MOONEJGHTANDROSES (43) DAIS G A Jerrangs) N Lithroden B 11 .T G McLaughlin 3
	MODERSTONE (24) (Mrs D & Brazer) A James B 11 C Lowther (5) 13
	NEGHT AUCTION (8) (Menther Motor Auctions) 8 Palling B 11
5	CLARIE KITE (81) (Mrs Henry Keswick) P Wellwyn 8 11R Cochrane 6
	ONLY IN DREAMS (Mascale Stud) B Meetion B 11
0	OUR MOLLY MALONE (26) (The Forens Files Pertnership) D Morley B 11. M Penton 2
	PERPECT LADY (R Cerstains) J Eustage 6 11 J Tain 18
	SHOTLEY MARIE (J.A. Swriburne) N Bycroft 8 11
	SHLKEN DALLIANCE (Lord Comeshout Lord Huntingdon 8 71
06	SUMBLAWA (26) (J K Ruggles 6 Mrs A R Ruggles) D Heydh Jones 6 11 S Drowne 9

88 OS SUMBAWA (26) (J K Rugges 6 Ms A R Rugges) D Heyth Jones 6 R __ S Drowns 9
70 WGGING (53) (Bloomsbury Stud) N Grahem 6 r 1 __ N Dey 12
80 WGRLD OF JOY (19) (The Thoroughbed Corporation) R Cherkon 6 r 1 __ T Sprake 17
- 18 declared - 18 declared BETTING: 3-1 Midstynes, 4-1 Markh, 6-1 Finel Tango, 13-2 Moostmas, 3-1 Only In Dreenes, 12-1 Implicity, Salam Datifesce, 44-1 Wigging, 19-1 Oere Kine, 20-1 Sambares, Our Molly Matons, 33-1 others
1996: Much Commended 2 B rt M Hills 8-4 (G Wingg) drawh (2 9 ren
FORM GUIDE

lichteymer has been sent off favouritie on both starts to date end was not besten far on either occasion. The one to beat her may be Seeded bin Surpor's newcorner MARIAB who is drawn alongaide and like most of the stables two-year-olds can be expected to give it good account first time out. With the stalls on the shands side, Lord Huntingdon's newcorner Stitem Datiliance closes not have an ideal pitch in stall loos, but John Coaden's Flat Tango fast the pitch in the MARIAB.

Selection: MARIAB. oo has the plan tiray.

3	.45	ASHTON CORRUGATED MIDLANDS LIMITED STAKES (CLASS F) £3,300 added of Penalty Value £3,132
_	W 1000	DOUBLESTONE TO US ON SECTION CO. LANGUE CO. D. VIN TINLE LEV
1	104UUU	SOUPERFICIAL (51) (C) (D) (Mrs Christine Coulty) N Tinker 8 8 2 (Cm Tinker 15 V
2	300400	SUPERBIT (19) (CD) (Navile H Strik) B McMahon 5 92
3	30050	DAYRELLA SYL 601 (Dukerton Fortret W Mair 3 6 0
ă	DOMONO	DATRELLA (37) (D) (Duherton Equine) W Muir 360
ř	Affanyo	LA VOLTA (8) (CD) (J Lynem) Mes J Creze 4 8 13 Doubled 4 B
	OUNCE	MEDDLE EAST (5) (D) (Mrs. J Hezell) T D Berron 4 B 13 Carroll 1 B
D	monas.	MODITE CAST (2) (IN) (MEST LONG) L D DESIGNAD D - 1 CALCOS LO
7	DB2003	POINTER (12) (D) (In For The Crack) Mrs N Dutlield 58 13
8	559003	SHASHI (7) (D) (Mrs Anna L Sanders) Pat Mitchell 5 B 13
B		WHITE SETTLER (38) (J Newsome) R Hodges 4 B 13
10	22425	ARCHELLO (11) (E Gole) G Oldroyd 38 11
	LATE OF	The state of the s
Ti	5000005	HYPE SUPERIOR (80) (Robert Cox) A Balley 3 B 11
12	002063	MALADERIE (5) (D) (A M Brehout) M Chennon 38 11 T Quinn 12
13	260500	MARENGO (19) (J & Sharp) J Alerburst 3 B 11
14	D40000	RUDE AWAKENING (6) (William) Hith C Fairburst 38 11 K Fallon 5 B
**	Decad.	SHAPES DE LONE MAI GARDON, Four September Region V Spore 3.8 11 C Putter 7

| 1906 | 1190 PARTY (9 (0) (No. C F) Snotket | 19 (19 Sabous Feat 1) Y Sabous 3 (11 ... L. Filamer / 1906 | 1190 PARTY (9 (0) (No. C F) Snotket | 19 (19 Sabous Feat 1) Y Sabous 3 (11 ... L. Filamer / 1900 PARTY (9 (19 C) (No. C F) Snotket | 19 (19 C) (No. C F) Snotket | 19 (19 C) (No. C F) Snotket | 19 (19 C) (No. C F) (No.

4	.15	HAMBLIN GRAND CASINO NURSERY HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,025 added 2YO 1m 2f Penalty Value £3,538
_		
1	356	JONAS MIGHTENGALE (11) (R LI Cycer) C Cycer 87 J F Egan 15
2	42430	DANZIG FLYER (24) (Stemock Four) P Hams 9 7
3	6060	
ĭ	605830	NARROGIN (USA) (12) (Abion Investments) M Channon BB Carroll 17
-		
ĭ	6506	
9		LORD OF LOVE (20) (Cumbran Industrials Litt) T Easterby 32 L Charnock 5
		The residence of the second se
В	05430	
9	000	FAIR GAME (38) (Mrs Dane Snowdern J Duntop B 13 G Caster B
10	063	FORGOTTEN STAR (20) (Jim Short) R Johnson Houghton 9 12 T Williams 2
Ħ	040050	
12	50033	
13	040	
M	05625	
75	0000	Column 1 (13) [Castled Mark Parish 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
16	03002	
17	. 00800	AFTER DANN (73) (One Over The Eight) Miss N Dutlick! 62
18	05800	MARY LOU (14) (M A Ryan) M Chemion 62
		- 18 declared -

BETTING: 7-1 Catch The Rainbow, 9-1 Fair Garea, 16-1 Forgotten Star, Plantat, 12-1 Nemogin, 14-1 Garlemano, Iron Moustain, Red Mephe, Jones Nightengele, 16-1 Decozig Flyer, Mary Lou, 20-1 Akt-wych Arrow, Eastwell Hell, 33-1 Others 1990: Swallow Einezes 2 8 10 11 Roberts 7-2 (Dr J Scargel) drawn (4) 13 ran

FORM GUIDE

A geiding who is likely to be at his best after three runs, JONAS NIGHTENGALE has a Classic staying pedigrae, being by Deploy out of a Balteney mars. John Egans mount was taking on potential Group One horses when around 14 lengths actiff of Cay Honours and Profix at Donoaster. His partner on that occasion was klaren Fallon who now note iron Mountain to Naville Calleghan. This one is hard to sancy either he instead plum last behind Shewdon in a six furiong Epsom nursery lest time out. Like Jonas Nightengels, Catch The Rainbowe is by Deploy and he showed herself to be going the right way with a hast-length that lot Marsels Machine in a seven furiong Sandown nursery last month. Two hard races in the must may have taken their toil on Demoig Plyer, while Narrogian found himself moing on the wrong side at Donoaster and is better judged on his close-up third to Outsourching over a mile at Newmented previously. One of John Dunlops stepping up to this distance after three runs is likely to strinat interest, but the reason why Palf Game tries the trip is that he is very slow indeed. Third to runsway wenner Evening World at York, Forgotten Star was staying on at the finish and has prospects over the longer trip of a mark of just 64 Gratimano has shown his bast form at Wolverhampton, including when staying on to take second spot behard Peter Chappis-Hyams Clermon City feat time out. Mick Littmoden's youngster is bred to say Downhat tracks Rice Goodwood and Lingfield have tound Red Mapple out, but Paul Coles representative has above enough both in malden and nursery company to take a hand if coping with this longer distance. FORM GUIDE

A 45 BOLLINGER CHALLENGE SERIES MEN AMATEURS

1	.45	HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,300 added 1m 2f £2,924
	-53611	FARRINGDON HILL (81) (C P Ranson) J Gosden 6 12 0 Mr C Runson (4) 13 V
	90036-	DISALLOWED (J141) (M P Burles Family Settlement) D Nicholson 4 11 9, JMr D McPhall 3
	OU5631	FERRY'S GOVERNOR (31) (CD) (Ferr Components) W Musson 5 11 6 Mr T McCarthy 10
	000005	CIVIL LIBERTY (14) (Middourte) G Lewis 4 11 B Mr A Balding 5
	281343	AUGUSTAN (6) (D) (Robert Jones) 5 Gollings 6 tl 6 Mr R Waldey 11
	800351	FLASHTALKEY FLOOD (92) (C) (Mark Barrett) C Dwyer 3 ft 6 Lir P Scott 17
	850106	CLUED UP (47) (D) Dies E.J. Williams) P. Evens 4 10 13
	100650	SUBMICERVILLE WOOD (14) (C) (Likely Lack) F Mooney 3 to 13 Dr A Klimber (4) 16
	042224	ESSAYETTSEE (21) (D BF) (Mrs S Muntay) Mrs M Reveloy B 1011 .Mr T Consentant (4) 19
	-10650	BRAMBLES WAY (5) (D) (N E M Jones) Mrs M Reveloy B to 10 Mr N E Jones (4) 1
	334567	RICCARTON (31) (D) (K MacPherson) P Caher 4 10 10 Ur C Bonner 2
	223022	ASPECTO LAD (193) (R.J. Matthews) D. Williams 3 10 9
		FORTUNE HUNTER (J10) (J Norton) J Norton 3 108
		MONTONE (15) (D) (B Shirazi) J Jenkins 7 (D 7
	6304-5	TREMENDISTO (J130) (D McCam) D McCain 7 10 6
	001203	TAJAR (USA) (7) (Veg Chel Partnership) T Keddy 5 10 1 Mr. J Goldstein 18
	000350	TULSA (18) (8 Gubby Ltd) 8 Gubby 3 10 0
	900	STRENGTH OF VISION (47) (Austri Allison) C Egenton 3.8 to Mr P Phillips (4) 14

BETTING: 5-1 Fernin Governor, 8-1 Ferringdon HDL 8-1 Augustan, 10-1 Civil Liberty, Riccarton, 12-1 Clued Up, Strength Of Vision, Tajer, 14-1 Essinyeffeee, 18-1 Brambles Way, 25-1 others 1996: Fernis Governor 4 to 12 Nr T McCarthy 100-30 few (N Mccson) drawn (4) 16 ran

FORM GUIDE AUGUSTAN returns to the distance of his last win, and has a score to settle with Far the revised weights it should be a close call, but considering their Augustan turned Out again 48 hours later for the Moot & Chandon Sleve Magnum at Epsom, it may be that he was 8 later ing-nest on the former occasion. Bramblest Way has been dropped back to the same mark of 50 on which he last won in May, Mary Reveley's numer was the stables second string and had a break since May when lest of their framedon Hill at Reduar. This winner of three hunders races last writer we in action at Ayr test Thresday, when today's rider put up 6to overweight and finished down the field behind Philmist, Expect ebout 3th overweight this atternoon.

5.15 STAYBRITE WINDOWS LEVY BOARD HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,500 added 3YO 2m Penaity Value £3,951

_		L) 14,500 added 5 to 2111 reliaity fame 15,551
	0-0040	BANDORE (26) (Lady Harrison) D Loder 87 R Cochrane 4
		TROOPER (15) (Y Y Partnership) R Akahural 2 7 J Weaver 11
	030U3	ALAKDAR (CAN) (13) (Herndan Al Makloum) A Slewert B 1 R Hills 12
		WOODY'S BOY (15) (Vic Woodeson) 12 Healon-Elis 90 S Sandars 18
		CLASSIC FAN (USA) (24) (Classic Bloodstock Pic) LI Classron B 13
		STONED MACULATE (8) (CD) (M Rowsel) F Murphy B 2 5ex) K Rollon 8
		TASIK CHINI (USA) (4) [H R H Sultan Ahmad Shelt) P Cole B 11 T Quitan 15
	37020	BYDNGO DAWN (25) (BF) (Greenland Park Ltd) M Johnston B 11 D Holland 10
	342046	MADISON WELCOME (16) (Mrs Alson les) Mrs J Ramsden 6 B R Pironch (3) B
		AURELIAN (31) (M Desmond Fitzgerald) LI Bell 89
		ARISAIG (48) (Mrs. Janis MacPhargon) P Colver 87
		SIPOWITZ (8) (D) (R M Cyzer) C Cyzer 7 18 T Williams 3
		MAREMMA (8) (E Incisa) E Incisa 7 11 Kim Tinkier 2
		ALAGNA (46) (EP) (W J de Pulter) S C Williams 7 10 Miertin Dwyer 14 B
		MELODIC SQUAW (204) LI F Coupterol U Berby 7 10 D Wright 18
		GUARD A DREAM (125) (Mary Peveley Raping Club) Mrs LI Reveley 7 10 Quinn 6
		HIPPIOS (6) U.S. S Kelvi S Dow 7 to
		BERNIE'S STAR (JZZ) (Bernard F Rayner) N Bycroft 7 10 L Charnock 1
		_ 18 declared _

— 14 cocarror — Minimum weight: 7st 10th True hendicop weights: Molodic Squaw 7st 9th, Guard A Dream 7st 5th, Hip-plus 7st 2th, Bernie's Ster 7st 1th BETTING: 3-1 Stoned Immediates, 6-1 Alakdar, 7-1 Aurellan, 8-1 Bandore, 10-1 Arisalo. Stoowitz. NG: 3-1 Stored Impedition, 6-1 Auruse, 7-1 Auruse, 6-1 eg, 14-1 Guard A Dreum, 20-1 Alagna, Morrenton, 33-1 others Go With The Wind B 9 II M Farinos 5-1 (M Bel) drawn [3] 6 min FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE:

With a 5th panalty for a course-end-distance success eight days ago. Ferrly Murphys Stoned Imaculate will be a popular choice with Kleren Fallon again in the plate. GUIARD A DREAM has a first try in handicap company. All three of the goldings three runs have been at distances of no more than 10 furiongs, and there is every prospect that Mary Reveloy's runner can improve over this longer distance. He has had only three runs and could nick a race on the Flat before going jumping. David Loder stope his Salse colt Blandors up from a mile and a half and the top weight has been shown 5th worth of respite by the handicapper. Woody's Boy is another that is stopping up in distance and the manner in which he has been finishing on his last two starts suggests that a longer journey be in his tavour. Alakidar, third to Lookout over a mile and six furforgs at Kampton. Is another having a first crack at two miles.

Selection: GUARD A DREAM

RACING'S FUTURES MARKET

Horse (Trainer, weight)	Coral	William Hill	Latibrokes	To:
No Extras (G L Moore Bst20)	12-1	10-1	10-1	10
Yorkie George (L. Cumani 8st 3b)	10-1	10-1	12-1	10
Dancing Image () Balting/Sct10b)	14-1	12-1	10-1	14
Crumpton Hill (N Graham/8st11lb)	16-1	16-1	16-1	16
Neuwest (R Akehurst 9st5lb)	18-1	14-1	16-1	18
Safio (A Baley.7st116)	14-1	141	14-1	16-
Faraway Lass (Lord Huntrydon/Est2b)	20-1	14-1	14-1	14
Punsian Music (G Keleway/9st8b)	20-1	16-1	20-1	50
Speculator (W Hagges-9st)	16-1	14.1	16-1	20-
Swiss Law (J Goden/9st8b)	14-1	20-1	16-1	20-
Tragaron (R Alenust/956b)	14-1	20-7	20-1	20
Cosmic Prince (M Jarvs/8s17b)	20-1	20-1	25-1	20
Plamboyance (J Fershave 3st)	25-1	16-1	16-1	20
Restricture (Mrs. J Cecil/8st8b)	20-1	20-1	25-1	20
Young Precedent (P Herrs,7st11k)	25-1	15-1	20-1	20
Jo Mell (T Easterby-Bst 10b)	25-1	20-1	25-1	25-
Waypoint (R Charlton/est7th)	20-1	20-1	20-1	25-
Kayvee (Mrs A Penett/6st3b)	20-1	20-1	33-1	33
Khalang (W.R.Hem/7smb)	<u>25-1</u>	20-1	22-1	33

Sunday Spe	Coral	William Hin	Ladbrokes	The
Pasternak (M Prescon/9st5lb)	*4-1	7-1	7-1	doubtk
Hidlyma (L. Cuman/7srt(2lb)	E-1	7-1	6-1	4
Arctic Out (J Fansherre/7str2b)	14-1	12-1	14-1	14-
Benuchtenp Jade (H Carety/8st9tb)	14-1	14-1	8-1	12-
Heritage (J Gosden/7st/2fb)	12-1	121	14-1	14-
Honourable (J W Watts/Bst)	12-1	10-1	14-1	14-
Song Of Freedom (J Gosden/7st9tb)	14-1	10-1	12:1	7-
Bunt (D Modey,7st7tb)	14-1	14-1	12-1	14-
Rokeby Bowl (1 Balding/Bst8tb)	16-1	16-1	74-1	14-
Triple Leap (J Gosden/Bst1fb)	2-1	12-1	10-1	16-
Tylograp (Lady Herres/Estate)	16-1	16-1	15-1	14-
Better Offer (Mrs A Perrett (859b)	16-1	16-1	16-1	20-
Elbaaha (M.Jarvis/76/4lb)	141	20-1	16-1	12-
Miracle Kid (J Gosden/7st6b)	25-1	16-1	20-1	D.
Nabhaan (D Modey/9st5lb)	16-1	18-1	20-1	20-
Sekmon Ledder (P Cole/9sri3lb)	20-1	20-1	20-1	20-
Whitechapel (Lord Hurtingdon/7str0b)	25-1	20-1	14-1	25-

0 Guin	eas Stake	s (Im)	
Coral	William Hill	Ladbrokes	Total
7-1	B-1	6-1	5-1
6-1	B-1	9-1	7-1
10-1	10-1	10-1	7-1
8-1	10-1	8-1	7-1
16-1	8-1	8-1	16-1
	7-1 6-1 10-1 8-1	Coral William Hill 7-1 6-1 8-1 6-1 10-1 10-1 8-1 10-1	7-1 6-1 6-1 6-1 6-1 8-1 10-1 10-1 10-1 8-1 10-1 9-1

RACING RESULTS

KEMPTON 2.00: 1. ELSURUR (J Rect) 3-1: 2. inchtine 7-1: 3. Yanabi 2-1 iav 14 rain. 1%. (Sased bin Suroor) Tote: £450; £220. 170; £150; . DF: £1350; £557; £2279; Trio: C170, F150, 101 STATE STATE OF STATE OF

Jackpot: Not won. Pool of 1852991 carned forward to Nottingham today. Placepot: 19450. Quadpot: 19480. Place 6: 110570 Place 5: 17815

LEICESTER 2.20: 1.20/RS (R Muler) 7-1; 2. Smarter Charter 10-1; 3. Smarter Song 4-1 tax, 20 ren. 14-, nit. (J Poulton), Tote: C1150; 2360. 2290, 2150 DF: 23630. CSF: £7045. Tno: £330.

2.50: 1. RABI (R Hils) 1-8 fav: 2. De-molition do 10-1; 3. Vocation 13-2 3 ran. 5,21 (E Duniop). Tota: £170. DF: £220 CSF: 3.20: 1. RARE TALENT !A Mackey) 3-1 3.20: 1. MARIE TALLENT (A MECCEY) 3-1; 2. Roofs Round S-1; 3. Bright Fountain 11-4 fay 14 ran. Hd. 3. (M Charmon) Tota: 0300; 01-40, 0300, 0160 DF, 0140, 057; 0244 Trio: 02050, NRs: Kalmoold, Medges Pat. 3.50: 1. SWANIMORE LADY (R Firench) 3.50: 1, SWANNORE LADY (R French)
12-1: 2. Dekelsmarp 9-1: 3, Dekelsmar 10-1
14 ran. 9-2 itw Outz Show Hd. 11/4. (S
Wilsons) Tobe: 22160; 2500, 12-90, 6320
DF: CS860 CSF: D82:8 Tricast 170528 Tric
176:70. NR: Arbenig, Arter a stewards inquiry, placings unaliared.
4.20: 1, PETITE DANSEUSE (F Lynch)
4-1 itw; 2, Mystical 7-1; 3, Norvous Rex
20-1 21 ran. 2, 2, (C Dwyer), Tota: \$400;

52.40, \$2.80, \$910, DF: \$17.20, \$35; \$29.17 Trio: \$309.60, NR: Miles Double, 4.50: 1, ANSELLMAN (C Lowther) 13-2; 2. Another Botchworth 14-1; 3. Young Ben 25-1 15 ran. 5-1 fav Rich Glow Hd, 1/s. (J Berry). Tota: £900; £2.50. £850. £390. DF £0120. CSF: £9400. Tricast: £128634. Tric:

EASES. INCEST. E168.37.

4.40: 1. A S JIM (E Nusband) 11-2; 2.

Paulton 2-1 lav; 3. Crown And Cushlon 14-1.

9 ran. 7, 21/2. (10 O'Neill). Yota: \$720; \$190.

\$150. E350. DF: \$2220. CSF: \$197, Treast: \$755.30. Thir \$129.30. NF: Lord Nitrogen.

Placepot: \$11080. Guadpot: \$100.

THE INDEPENDENT			
RACING	SERV	ICES	
0891	26 TARIES	I +	
NOTTINGHAM		981	
STRATFORD	972	982	
PLUMPTON	973	983	
0891 261 970			
Calls (out 50p per Greate, 1)	S. plc. Scrette	e SI BEZA att	

PLUMPTON

2.35 The Executor 3.05 Mystik Day 3.35 Mozemo 4.05 Weather Wise 4.35 Dawn Chance 5.05 Canton Venture

Chance 5.05 Canton Venture

QUING: Good to Ferr (Good in placet)

Left-hand unbusing course with sharp bands

Course of 1275 S of Howards Heeth Plumpton station adjoins course Admissions Members 13. Tathersalis (B: Course is SCR PARK 12 (control of course) \$ 5.1

LEADING TRAINERS: IM Place 13 from 30 (433%); J Jenkins

LEADING TRAINERS: IM Place 13 from 30 (433%); J Penkins

LEADING TRAINERS: IM Place 13 from 30 (433%); A P Mc
Cov 8-00 (control Course) \$ 5.0

LEADING TRAINERS: A Magaine 25 from 101 (243%); A P Mc
Cov 8-00 (control Course) \$ 6.0

LEADING TRAINERS: A Magaine 15.8 (85.0%) J Debome 11.43 (55.0%)

FANOURITIES: 113 was from 40 (265.0%) Persian Dean

LEADING TRAINERS: Amborbill proceed (235. Persian Dean

LEADING TRAINERS: Apollono (235. has been seril 198

roles by H Lee from Byton, Strippaline

EEDINGCK CONDITIONALS SELLING

2-35 BERWICK CONDITIONALS SELLING

1-35 H'CAP H'DLE (CLASS of) 22,375 2m 1f

ELES THE EXECUTOR (P12 DJ H COSAMOT 20 N Wilmington (5)

208-6 DO BE WARE (27) (CD) J Fisch-Hopes 7 11 9 L Casmains

PEDS PERSIAN DAWN (F62) R Preibre 4 11 6 ... G Hopes 3

26-113 SAFECRACKE (F10) (O) C Mortick 4 11 6 ... P Hardey

3-176 APOLLONG (27) R Leo 5 11 4 ... G Supple 9

4 EP32-5 ARABOYBILL (F71) J Howards 11 1 3 Sopple Michael (2) B 1 (1) C (1

3.05 PAUL & KATIE MARITAL HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 3YO 2m 1f

- o coccured -BETTING: 2-7 Novemb Day, 8-1 Zatarelli, 7-1 Re De Librate, 12-1 Aquanita, 33-1 Sentre Ver Man

LADBROKE NOVICE HANDICAP 3.35 CHASE (CLASS E) £4,100 added 2m 5f

4.05 ERIC BOAT NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m 4f

FSIZ ZELBA (28) (D) P Chemings 5 to 2: ______A Thomton CO43: WEATNER WISE (250) W G M Turner 5 to 10 Power (7) CE PABLICON (FT) (11) M Pips 4 to 8 ______C Meade BURSIX LADY (P4) Mas 8 Senders 4 to 3.... O Gallagher 40. CARWYN'S CHÖICE [18] P Cartle 4 to 3 B Feston

-5 declared - BETTING: 8-11 Zeliba, 3-1 Fabulon, 100-30 Weather Wise, 33-1 Bursul Ledy, Caretys's Choice 4.35 MORTON HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS P) £3,500 addad 2m

Meninum weget: 10st True handles weget in 10 to 10 to 10st True handles weget: 10st True handles weget David Chance Set 13b.
BETTING: 8-4 Petr Of Jacks, 3-1 Lastia, 11-2 Gabiab, 6-1 halitum Turn,
3-1 David Chance, 18-1 Victory Anthem, 20-1 Gode For Lanch 5.05 LADBROKE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,650 added 2m 4f

- 7 declared -RETTING: 2-1 Cardon Venture, 5-2 Storm, 9-2 Chiefant's Crown, 7-1 Walk-ing Tall, 6-1 Year Righ, 12-1 Sortiers, 16-1 Vertilari,

STRATFORD

HYPERION 2.25 Aubum Boy 2.55 Fataliste 3.25 Yubralee 3.55 Shahrani 4.25 Galatasori Jane 4.55 Johnny-K

GOING: Good (Good to Firm in places). ● Lati-hand course with 200yd nan-in.
■ Course is SW of Stratford-on-Avon on A439. Stratford station im ADMISSRON: Club £15, Tettersalls £9; Course £4 CAR PARK: Inside course E2, remainder Fee.

LEADING TRAINERS: M Pipe 29 from 95 (905%); D Nic. on 15-46 (32.6%); K Balley 14-72 (194%); P Hobbs 12-62 (194%); P Nicholis 7-24 (292%).

● LEADING JOCKEYS: A P McCoy 23 from 106 (21.7%); A Liaguine 2-99 (24.7%); N Williamson 17-103 (16.5%); R Johnson 11-57 (19.3%).

FAVOURITES: 157 wins from 443 races (354%). BLANKERED FIRST TIME: None. WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None. 2.25 WILMCOTE CLAIMING HURDLE (CLASS F) £2,600 added 2m 110yds

BETTIMG: 5-4 Religit Sleep, 6-4 Aubern Boy, 13-2 Amapa, 12-1 Thomas Crown, 29-1 Another Controls, Highest Roots

2.55 SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR HURDLE (CLASS E) 52,950 added 3YO 2m 110yds

-1114 YUBRALEE (USA) (11) (D) (BF) M Proe 5 (20 . A P McCoy 1 - THE TUBERLES (USA) (11) (D) (EF) M PICE S 2U. AP MICUS 2 56-32 JAZZY REPRIAN (19) (SP) L Welle 7 11 - A Maguire 3 14-D1 DUBELLE (P15) (D) J King 7 10 0 J Cullety 4 3/6FP4 (NDIAN RUN (12) (D) R Hodge 6 10 0 . . T Descende (3) -4 decliered -Minimum weight 10st. Time handcap weight indien Run 9st 8tb. BETTING: 11-8 Yubrales, 2-1 Jazzy Rofrain, 5-2 Dubelle, 10-1 Indian Run

3.25 RICHARDSON HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £4,950 added 2m 1f 110yda

3.55 WILLIAM HILL HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,700 added 2m 8f 110yds

TTING: 6-4 Stehrani, 11-4 Swing Quartet, 4-1 Sheriff, 9-2 Major's Law,

4.25 ALDERMINSTER NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £4,950 addad 3m 1 1-P2h GALATASORI JANE (19) (D) P Nicols 7 115 ...T J Murphy 2 37-07- BIG JIM (176) (D) C Murris B 10 12 J Murphy (3) 3 61023 COMMANCHE CREEK (13) M POP 7 10 12 A P McCoy 2 4 2200 LA MON BORS (189) (D) P Hobbs 6 10 2 ... C Livenilyn 5 30P-45 LITTLE TINGTURE (19) (D) Mrs T M Starrer T 10 12 G Upton BETTING: 5-4 Galatasori Jane, 2-1 Constrainthe Creek, 13-2 La Mon Dere, 8-1 Big Jim, Little Tincture

4.55 CHARINGWORTH 'NH' NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 edded 2m 3f 1 000- ABOVE SUSPICION (243) C. Jarries 5 10 12 JR Kinvenagh
2 8°-FP BET WILLSFURE (84) P. Charmors, 5 10 12 JR Kinvenagh
3 00- BULKO BOV (N2) (181) P. Hobbs 5 10 12 A. P. MisCov
4 12°-S. JOHNNYK (263) (8F) D. Néchoto B 10 12 A. R. Marguine
5 05300 SCAPLET RAMBLER (109) Mass H Knght 8 10 12 A. R. Marguine
6 THE MILLSTONE (178) C. Jones 6 10 12 ... G. Upton
100-04 WELSH SPINNER (10) Mass McVia B 10 12 ... W. Marston
17 (10) Mass McVia B 10 12 ... W. Marston
18 TITING: 6-11 Johnsoy-K, 4-1 Scarlet Ramshiet, 13-2 Bollos Boy, 8-1 Welsh
Spinner, 16-1 Above Suspicion, The Millstone, 20-1 Bet Williamire

Parnevik is happy to play the king of comedy

A sporting eccentric or a man at ease with himself and his game? Andy Farrell talks to one of the

European Ryder Cup players who is expected to excel in Valderrama.

There is a considerable body of evidence that suggests Jesper Parnevik is 100 per cent barking mad. Walter Hagen may have gone around smelling the ruses, but you get the impression this Swede would not only smell them and talk to them, but crush the petals into a juice to he taken at breakfast along with his volcanic dust and, maybe, a croissant.

Hagen's approach to the game was recalled in a recent colomn in this newspaper by Ken Jones. "The notion that games aren't necessarily fun is pathetic and sadly, a feature of the last couple vicarious parental involvement." Jones wrote. Talk to Parnevik about his life as a stories have goifer and the word that crops up most often is fun.

This is something he certainly gets from his father. Bo Parnevik is a famous comedian in Sweden, a cross between Mike Yarwood and Tommy nevik to visu-Cooper. Exposed to the funny ba-ha side of life from an early age. Jesper has never heen afraid to explore the funny peculiar aspect of the world either. After Bo took up golf, his son found the perfect ootlet for his wondering and wandering

The anecdotes are well chronicled. Parnevik believes in reincarnation, meditates while the dawn breaks over the ocean near his home in Sooth Palm Beach, Florida. He eats volcanic sand to cleanse his system, has had his blood analysed by radiation, uses stroboscopic glasses, has had his metal fillings replaced with ceramic ones to reduce mercury levels and has been a popil of the Russian philosopher who is Mikhail Gorbachev's mentor.

demonstration that he is not your regular golfing pro comes in his retro, non-colour coordinated clothing and the cap with its upturned peak. Parnevik was practising in Florida one winter and wanted to get a tan. He almost won his next tournament and the tradition has stuck. He planned to get a special Ryder Cup version made.

"Any image is a good one," Parnevik says. "Maybe there isn't that much to write about in the golfing world. I don't mind at all. If anyone can have fun on my behalf I'm happy. All those things started with a small thing and they have been building up. It goes in cycles. You get really hooked on something and try it out, but a few months later you else. It's great.

don't want to do anything at all I've been goite normal of months."

Some of the been perpetrated by his onetime coach, Olaf Skipper. It was 'Skipper who got Paralise a shot by falling into a I'm happy'

imagining green Parnevile 'If anyone can peas in orbit have fun on my behalf,

After the Open Champl- about having a year like this." onship at Royal Troon, where for the second time Parnevik narrowly missed becoming the first Swede to win a major, Skipper suggested the full moon had contributed to his downfail. "I read that," Parnevik said. "That was taking it a little bit to the extreme. I'm not really into that. We don't work together that pott. No problem.

much any more." When he was based in Europe, he used to hate putting on ul-

Troon, his game was not all there and the putts which held his challenge together for three days refused to drop as they did for Justin Leonard at the finale.

The 32-year-old Swede's admiration for golf's oldest crown is undiminished by his ordeals at Troon and, three years earlier, at Turnberry. "The Open is the absolutely hest tournament ever, I think. It is the way they build the grandstands. There is no other tournament that do it that way. There is this tonnel down the 18th fairway. When you get the applause and the cheers it is almost over-

whelming. When yoo bole a

putt, the roars are a hondred

times higher than anywhere

"I don't look back with any regrets, I just think, once it finally happens. it is going to feel so moch people ask me if I am disappointed that I have not won this year. I can't be. I've had my best year ever. I know I'm go-

ing to have years which are a lot, lot worse and I'll dream Parnevik is at a loss to explain his rise into the world's top

20. "Golf is so easy when you are doing well, it's unbelievable. When I won the Lancôme Trophy last year I was wondering: 'What is everyone else doing?' All you have to do is hit the fairway, hit the green and make the "It is when you are struggling,

But Parnevik has done work that's the real test about how you aplenty in America, improving can handle yourself. The really his ball-striking and his putting. first-class players, when they are struggling, they are still trying hard and they are not comtra-fast greens. Now he loves it. plaining about this, blaming He has come close to winning others and all that. They just try

Of course, the most public but not quite managed it. At to fight back. Those guys are the true champions.

"I've thought about it a few times with Tiger [Woods]. I think he sends the wrong message to the teenagers sometimes. You know, when he finished second at Pebble Beach and he said: 'Second sucks - all t want to do is win'. If you play for that reason, you are going to be disappointed a lot.

"Bot there is something else that drives you, has to drive you. If you do it because you truly enjoy doing it then all the results will come. But if you try to do it the other way round... It's like when you are a kid you never stop playing - not because you think at 30 you're going to be a millionaire, you stand there and chip and putt for hours just because you think it is so much fun.

"I think golf is the best game ever invented. I look at all other games and nothing comes near to golf. I think it is one of the last true games. All other games these days almost force better. A lot of you to cheat as much as you can without getting caught. No one in golf ever has that thought going through their mind. Guys who have never seen golf cannot believe if you are in the woods and you have the chance to win \$200,000, why don't you move your ball a little bit. No one can see you. No one would know, but it never happens."

Many of Parnevik's countrymen did not think they would ever see two Swedes in the Ryder Cup team, a consequence of which is full television coverage for the first time. "A lot of people in Sweden have never seen golf before and they watch the British Open and they can't believe how nerve-wracking it is to watch and how exciting.

"They think it is a pretty boring sport and nothing really happens, but when they actually watch it, they realise it is a lot of fun. I remember watching the Ryder Cup at Kiawah and it was so tense you did not want to be sure, will be enjoying himself this week:



leave the TV." Parnevik, you can Europe's Ryder Cup stalwart Nick Faldo tries out Valderrama's fifth hole yesterday

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TENNIS: COMPAQ GRAND SLAM CUP

Rusedski puts points before prize money

The \$6m Compaq Grand Slam Cup starts today, with Britain's Greg Rusedski among the 16 participants laughing all the way to the bank. John Roberts reports from Munich.

Finally, in its eighth year, the Compag Grand Slam Cup has found a place in the calender closer to the four major championships it represents. The fact that the dollarfest now coincides with the Munich Oktoberfest is incidental, although a number of the players here appeared to make some reference to hangover. This, on second hearing, torned oot to be Hanover, the venoe of the ATP Tour Championship.

The players, while happy to take a share of the \$6m (£4m) on offer in Munich, continue to view the largess of the Grand Slam Cup as small beer compared to the prestige of contesting next month's eight-man ATP Toor finale.

Greg Rusedski, who qualified to make his debut in the Olympic Hall today by advancing to the United States Open final and the Wimhledon quarter-finals, typifies the general attitude. "If I do well at the Slam Cup, it's great," the British No I said, "but if I don't I'm nut guing to he disappointed, because the indoor season on the main Tour is much more important to me."

In December last year, Oxford's Tim Henman broke a holiday to travel to Munich as an alternate, found himself in the competition and left with \$431,250 after losing to Boris Becker in the semi-finals. En roote, Henman eliminated Michael Stich and Mali Vai

Rusedski, guaranteed \$100,000 even if he loses his first-round match against Australia's Todd Woodbridge, has decided to invest his prize money in a new apartment in London. "For me," he said. "the Grand Slam Cup is something nice, to be able to compete with the top 16 players in the world. But I would rather be in Hanover for the last eight. I think that's the main goal for any play-

"There are no points involved in the Grand Slam Cup," Rusedski added. You can make a lot of money, but the most important thing is trying to get in the top eight in the world to get to the semis. ATP World Championships. I've a good opportunity if I can play well in the indoor season."

Rusedski, currently ranked No 10 in the

MUNICH MONEY MAKERS

THE COMPAQ GRAND SLAM CUP

Alternates (2)\$50,000 each

Bonuses - \$1m (\$250,000 to the winner

of each Grand Stam who participates)

the tournament to the Grand Slam De-

velopment Fund, which is administered

by the International Tennis Federation for the growth of the sport.

Semi-finalists.....

First-round losers.....

world, is in 12th position in the season- That's what got him to win a Grand ing the ATP Tour finals his priority. Rusedski needs no reminding that the fast court in Munich offers wealth along with a new experience to a player with his hoge serve. Moreover, he has learned much from his progress at the 6-2, 6-1, 7-6.

said I was going to lose in the first round in Bournemooth [on slow clay]," Rusedski said. "I had to go there hungry. If I hadn't gone there hungry, I don't think I would have made the

"Mentally competing - being in makes the difference between getting With seven weeks remaining, to the top and not, I mean, look at Pat Rafter, the way he competes so well.

TODAY'S FIRST ROUND (12.0 BST)

G Rusedski (GB) v T Woodbridge (Aus)

T Muster (Aut) v P Refter (Aus)

B Becker (Ger) v J Bjorkman (Swe)

1995: G Ivanisevic (Croa): 1994: M Lars-

son (Swe); 1993; P Korda; 1992; M Stich (Ger); 1991; D Wheaton (US); 1990; P Sampras (US).

...... \$15m (£tm) C Pioline (Fr) v F Dewulf (Bel)

..\$250,000

...\$100,000

- \$500,000 Pete Sampras (Australian P Korda (Cz Rep) v G Kuerten (Bra) Open and Wimbledon), \$250,000 Gus- P Sampras (US) v F Mantilla (Sp)

Patrick Rafter (United States Open). \$250,000

Patrick Rafter (United States Open).

in addition, \$2m is donated annually by Previous winners: 1996: B Becker;

......\$750,000 Y Kafelnikov (Rus) v S Bruguera (Sp)

......\$425,000 M Rios (Chile) v *M Woodfords (Aus)

long race for Hanover. While declar- Slam. Just by competing, you improve your game and you improve your confidence. It makes a huge difference."

Woodbridge, half of the world's top doubles team, lost to Pete Sampras in the Wimbledon singles semi-finals,

Although disappointed not to be on "After the US Open, everybody the winning side in last weekend's Davis Cup semi-final against the United States in Washington DC, Woodbridge took pride in the way he and his compatriot Mark Woodforde defeated the brilliant Sampras and Todd Martin in the doubles rubber.

"I think today's match was the anthere, every point, every match - swer to those people who say we don't play against the best players in doubles."

It may be remembered that Woodbridge, one of a minority of players who are less than 6ft tall, defeated Rusedski, 6-1, 6-2, in the second round of the Stella Artois Championships on the lawns of Queen's Club last year.

After that match, the Australian discussed his ability to turn opponents' strengths against them. "I was locky to get out of the first game," he conceded. "I just hung together, and from then on I returned well and pullified hisweapon [Rusedski's serve]. Everything else in my game is better, and I think

"Unfortunately, on certain days you can't beat these guys," he added.
"They serve too hig and take a swing at your serves and their returns go in."

As well as losing the match that day, Rusedski had some of his tennis clothing stolen from the locker-rooms. He seems far less vulnerable nowadays, on

MOTOR RACING

Williams quietly confident of success

Jacques Villeneuve has closed the gap in the drivers' championship to one point. His team believes he can do it, but the man he is chasing is Michael Schumacher. Derick Alsop reports from Zeltweg Austria:

The sideshow has been closed, all other distractions removed, and now Formula One has the prospect of a championship finale to concentrate the mind

and lift the soul. A couple of races back it seemed Michael Schumacher's course to a third title was irresistible, the challenge of Jacques Villeneuve and his Williams-Renault rendered almost impotent.

However, the Austrian Grand Prix here has changed the complexion of the season. Villeneuve's victory and Schumacher's stop-go penalty reducing the gap between them to a mere one point, with three rounds remaining.

The German is undeniably the outstanding talent among these travelling troubadours, but he has to produce his most inspired performances to counter the rejovenated Villeneuve-Williams double act, and even then it might not be enough to offset the obvious inferiority of the Ferrari.

out on the stage again in Sunday's Luxemboorg Grand Prix, a convenient label for an event at the Nürburgring, in Schumacher's home country. Whether he will enjoy home advantage in his 100th F1 appearance is another matter.

Villeneuve won there last year and confidently anticipates a similar superiority this time. His team expect him to remain in the ascendancy also at Suzuka and Jerez.

"We should be strong in these last three races," Frank Williams said. "We look to be in pretty good shape now,"

Williams are gratified they have sharpened their comnetitive edge - they now have a 12-point lead over Ferrari in the constructors' championship - and that Villeneuve has apparently recovered his combative zeal after a number of lacklustre offerings.

Patrick Head, Williams' technical director, said: "We are reasonably confident of winning the constructors' championship, but I would say the drivers' championship is going to be a fight. We started with everyone telling us how good our car was, but then came a period when it maybe wasn't so good and Hockenheim was the nadir. when we thought we had serious problems.

"We had to get focused riority of the Ferrari.

They barely have time to fighting position, but I still refighting position, but I still refighting position, but I still refighting position.

draw breath before stepping gard it as tough. One point is enough to be behind Michael Schumacher because he never gives up, bowever difficult his car might be. So we still regard it as a bit of a struggle between now and the end of the season.

"Even if we qualify in front of him we can't afford to take anything for granted because in races his lap times are very competitive. In this race, for instance, had it not been for the yellow flag be would have been maybe second. He is a formidable opponent."

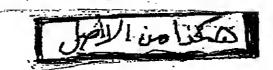
Schumacher demonstrated not only his familiar speed and car control here, hot also the basic instincts of a fighter in the face of adversity. Head believes that in Villeneuve Williams have a man oot of the same mould.

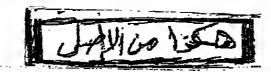
Every team needs to be led by a fighter and Jacques has proved he is equal to the task," Head said. "In qualifying he was a fair way back, then pulled off pole position. He out the hammer down and got the job done. He has a lot of spirit and fight. He will not give anything op easily."

Schomacher's team-mate, Eddie Irvine, suggests Villeneuve should make the most of his opportunity this season. "The Ferrari will be better next season," Irvine said, "and no one will be able to tou.n Michael then,"



STEVE HARRIS, TEACHES FOR BRASS. PADDLES FOR GOLD. ATLANTIC





31/SPORT

RUGBY LEAGUE

Farrell to lead new-look side

Great Britain have put the missing pieces into place for their Test series against Australia this autumn - to universal approval. Dave Hadfield reports.

The Great Britain side put any recent uncertainties on to the hack burner with the unveiling vesterday of a new kit, a new sponsor, a new memher of the craching staff and a captain who is not completely fresh to the job.

To nobody's surprise, Andy Farrell retains the job of leading Great Britain in the Test series against Australia in November, "I learned a lot captaining Great Britain in New Zealand last year and I'm still learning at Wigan, where I'm still only in my first full season as captain," Farrell said.

It is a mark of his status as a player that he seems to bave been leading sides by example if not always by name forever, although he is still only 22.

"I won't have to ask anything of him," the Great Britain coach, Andy Goodway, said. "He will go out there and do what he always does by showing everyone else the way. Andy the best three in the world."

Goodway did not dismiss suggestions that Farrell, a commanding loose forward for Wigan, might be needed at stand-off for Great Britain. Stand-off is a key position and I will have to look at all the options." Goodway said.

Goodway also acquired the

Test player Daryl Powell, who has heen appointed support coach for the series.

BOXING

Powell's own Test career only ended last year in New Zealand, since when he has briefly sampled coaching with Keighley only to be drafted across to Leeds as part of the rescue package for the First Division club.

He commands great respect among the current generation of international players and Goodway sees his role as liaising between those players and management. "There will come times when they don't want me around and Daryl will be the ideal link," Goodway said.

Farrell and his team-mates will wear a re-designed kit bearing the imprint of British Gas. After the problems the game has experienced recently in getting and keeping sponsors, the decision of a high-profile national company to come on board was greeted with delight at the announcement in Leeds.

Great Britain were without a sponsor on last year's lossmaking tour and Super League has lost the backing of Stones for next season, so the acquisition of British Gas-and the fact that two other companies were in the hidding - suggests to the League's chief executive, Mauis a complete player and one of rice Lindsay, that there could be a knock-on effect that will benefit other areas of the game.

An official application has been made to the Australian Rugby League for the release of Gary Connolly and Jason Robinson for the Test series, while Australia have given a due to their thinking by naming the Cronulla serum-half Paul Green final member of his coaching, in their side to play New team, the vastly experienced Zealand this Friday.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

Dilfer dispatches Dolphins to keep Tampa Bay on top

Tampa Bay on Sunday won the dium as John Elway had three local derby in Florida against scoring passes, while the New Miami to remain one of three York Jets blocked a field goal atunbeaten teams in the Nationcancers beat the Dolphins 31-21 yards for a touchdown in a 23for their fuurth victory. Denver 22 home win over Oakland. and New England have also yet to lose.

1888144

Miami had won four of the previous the meetings against Tampa Bay but their defence taverde, finished with 318 yards had no answer to Trent Dilfer. The quarterback achieved four touchdown passes as the Buccaneers remained a game ahead of Green Bay Packers in the "" NFC Central Division.

Green Bay, Super Bowl champions, had to survive an intense second-half fightback by Minnesota to win 36-32. Brett Favre threw five touchdown passes for the Packers, who had led 31-7 at half-time.

One team who failed to stop a comeback was Indianapolis. who are without a win. The Colts surrendered a 26-point advantage to lose in Buffalo 37-35 as the Bills running back Antowain Smith rushed for 129 vards and three touchdowns.

Denver stayed on top of the NFC West with a 38-20 triumpb over Cincinnati at Mile High Sta- Francisco saw off Atlanta 34-7.

tempt with Ray Mickens picking

Baltimore won for the third time by overwhelming the Oilers in Tennessee 36-10. The Ravens quarterback, Vinny Tespassing and three scoring strikes.

New England remain undefeated with a 31-3 dismissal of Chicago at Foxboro Stadium. Drew Bledsoe's two touchdown throws and five Patriot sacks of quarterback Rick Mirer condemned the Bears to their fourth defeat. The Kansas City Chiefs intercepted Kerry Collins, of Carolina Panthers. four times and forced him to fumble once in an impressive 35-14 win at Ericsson Stadium.

Mike Ditka won his first game as the coach of New Orleans when the Saints humbled Detroit 35-17 in Louisiana. The St Louis Rams won their second game with a 13-3 triumph over New York Giants, while Seattle scored in the final minute to defeat San Diego 26-22 and San



conference. The former World Boxing Organisation middleweight and super-middleweight champion will challenge Mark Prince for his WBO Inter-Continental light-heavyweight title at Sheffield Arena on II October. His new promoter, Frank Warren, has offered him a 10-fight deal and if he beats Prince, he may challenge the winner of the Dariusz Michalcewski-Nicky Piper WBO world title fight in Hanover on Saturday week. Eubank said that his cash problems -- he owed American Express £120,000 -- have been sorted out Photograph: Ben Curtis/PA

SAILING: WHITBREAD ROUND-THE-WORLD RACE

Swedish yachts take early lead in round-the-world race

After a thrilling high-speed tor fleet in the Solent, the 10 of the Channel. yachts in the Whitbread race were yesterday struggling to go round Ushant on the north-west

corner of France. complete the first 200 miles,

start dodging the huge specta- hunched up on the French side role.

Back in the lead was the man who led the ebarge out Paul Cayard, in one of the two dawn broke yesterday his part-

conditions went light and they had briefly taken over that

Cayard's navigator, Mark Rudiger, was bluntly honest saying the one that gets the past the Needles, America's lucky puff of wind pulls ahead.

In second place Grant Dal-It took them just 11 hours to Swedish EF yachts, though as too reported that they had a big lump of seaweed round the pushed along by fresh south- ners in the all-women boat keel at a time overnight when al Football League. The Buc- up the ball and returning it 72 easterly breezes, but then skippered by Christine Guillou they were going too fast to

take any action, but until the wind settles into a more regular pattern all are most concerned that they should not be left hehind in a calm.

WHITEHEAD ROUND THE WORLD RACE: Standings at 14.00 GMT yesterday, with distance to finish: 1 Er Language (Swo). 7255/miss; 2 Mart Cap Richay 7244; 5 Chesch Racing (US) 7725; 6 Ecchica (US) 7725; 7 Americas Crailings (US) 7251; 6 Ecchica (US) 7257; 7 Americas Crailings (US) 7252; 8 Swotch Match (Swe). 7259; 9 Er Eduction (Swe) 7269; 9 House (Swe) 7269; 9 Er Eduction (Swe) 7269; 9 - Stuart Alexander

ICE HOCKEY

Manchester go down a storm Prudential backing Milk Race

Superleague dubs went on a goal League sides to further emphasise the gulf in the British game.

Mancbester Storm, Newcastle Cobras and Cardiff Devils all inflicted heavy losses on lesser rivals to give an even more one-sided appearance to of Slough Jets. the Benson and Hedges Cup qualifying groups.

Storm crushed Paisley Pirates 15-0 in front of another 6,000plus crowd at the Nynex Arena. Morin each scored hat-tricks.

Also in Group A, Telford Tigers were no match for Newcastle Cobras, losing 13-1. Carmine Vani and Justin Duberman helped themselves to hat-tricks, while Telford bad to wait until the last period for Claude Dumas to score.

Ayr Scottish Eagles inflicted The Milk Race has finally found rampage against National a second defeat of the weekend on Superleague rivals Sheffield Steelers 4-2, while Cardiff Devils continue to set the pace in Group B. Doug McEwen, Vezio Sacratini and Ivan Matulik each scoring twice in the 9-2 defeat

> Nottingham Pantbers' 3-1 win at Bracknell Bees was unusual in that all the goals were scored in the first period. Basingstoke Bison recorded

Domenie Maltais and Mike a 6-2 win at National League Peterborough Pirates. Six different players were on the mark for Basingstoke, but last season's strugglers still look unlikely to mount a serious challenge for honours this time round.

In the Autumn Trophy, Fife Flyers came from behind for a 6-5 win at Lancashire Hawks.

a new sponsor in life assurance company Prudential after four years of trying to find replacement financial backing.

The nine-day race, which already has a slot in the international calendar for next year, has been the showpiece event in British cycling for more than 25 years. It is scheduled to run from May 23-31 in 1998.

Prudential are not intent on building on the tradition of the event, instead describing the tour, which will coincide with the company's 150th anniversary, as an entirely new race. Unlike its previous incarna-

tion, which was restricted to England and Wales, the new event will run through Scotland. Full details of the route will be announced in November.

Peter King, the chief execu-

tive of the British Cycling Federation, said: "It represents a big vote of confidence in the sport. We see it as further evidence of cycling's resurgence in popularity, both among those wbo take part and those who will enjoy the spectacle of exciting and

colourful racing." The Czecb sprinter Jan Svorada outpaced his rivals for bis second victory in the Tour of Spain yesterday when he won the 170km 16th stage from Cangas de Onis to Santander. Svorada's sprint over the fi-

nal 100 metres gave bis Mapei team their fourth stage success and softened the disappoint- through David Mathews and ment of losing his Russian cause of a bronchial infection. en free hit.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

RUGBY UNION

Quins cite Rees for stamping

The Heineken Cup, rugby's flagship European competition, was rocked by more accusations of violence yesterday when Harlequins cited a Cardiff player for stamping. Andrew Baldock reports.

Tony Rees. Cardiff's former Brive second-row forward, yesterday found himself accused of a stamping incident that left Gareth Llewellyn, Harlequins' Welsh international lock, nursing a nasty facial cut.

Llewellyn asked Ouins to view video evidence and under tournament rules they bave now cited Rees in writing within 24 bours of Sunday's at Cardiff ending. Quins' fax arrived with Heineken Cup director Roger Piekering in Dublin yesterday afternoon as be was meeting with other tournament officials to discuss incidents both during and after the controversial Brive v Pontypridd cup tie the previous Sun-

Llewellyn was not present when Quins looked at the video. but Andy Keast, the eluh's rugby director, said it showed a elear case of stamping, "Gareth asked us to view it and I can confirm that we bave eited Tony

Rees," Keast said. The incident soured Quins' notable 28-21 victory, whieb ended with Llewellyn and Rees hrawling as the French referee Didier Méné sounded his final whistle. Llewellyn, capped 59 times by Wales, returned to the

field for Quins' warm-down session with blood running from a wound perilously close to his

left eye. He expressed his anger in oo uncertain terms, claiming: "It was obviously deliberate and I am not very happy to say the least. If the player concerned wants to do that sort of thing, then fine, but we'll have to see

where we go from here." Heineken Cup rules state that any cited player cannot be considered for selection by his elub until the case has been dealt with. That will frustrate Cardiff, who face a critical away game against Munster next weekend, when they need a victory to keep alive their dwindling chances of reaching the

quarter-finals. The Cardiff coach Terry Holmes claimed he was unaware of any incident involving Rees, but he could now be without the 6ft 5m forward, who joined the club earlier this year from Brive.

Rees, 32, bas given the Cardiff pack an added physical presence along with his former Brive colleague Gregori Kacala and was prominent during impressive early-season league victories over the Welsh champions Pontypridd and their old rivals, Neath.

A government inquiry into the financial and administrative affairs of South African rugby was launched yesterday, three days before Carel du Plessis' successor as the Springbok coaeb is due to be named.

The Sports Minister, Steve Tshwete, made it clear that the inquiry was not a vendetta, but "rather a way for rugby to clear its name".

HOCKEY

England's progress suffers through lack of discipline

Bill Colwill

England's hopes of a place in old when Riehard Stamp was the semi-finals willed in the temporarily suspended for a sec-World Junior Cup at Milton ond offence. Within two min-Keynes yesterday when they utes. Deamhrosi had scored were beaten 5-2 by Argentina. They must now beat Pakistan, who yesterday outelassed Ger-

many 6-2, this evening. Yesterday's game hinged on England's failure to score from five penalty corners inside three minutes early in the game and two second-balf suspensions, which disorganised their defence. Additionally, England did not play that well and although goalkeeper Jon Ebsworth saved well at a penalty stroke, he appeared at fault for at least two of the goals.

After England's bright opening spell. Argentina took the lead in the 17th minute through Leonardo Deambrosi. England's response was swift within three minutes they went team-mate Pavel Tonkov, who ahead, Alistair Boyse scored has pulled out of the event he- from Mark Pearn's quickly tak-

That was the end of England's control of the game. German Orozco equalised for Argentina on the interval. The second half was just six minutes his second and England had conceded a penalty stroke from which Orozco scored.

England had no sooner got Stamp back and were looking workmanlike when Boyse was suspended. Leandro Melgarejo, taking advantage of the disruption, scored their fifth goal.

A disappointed England coach, Jon Royce, was critical afterwards. "Some of the more talented players let themselves down with their lack of discipline."

pline."

ENGLAND: J Ebeworth (Eddington); 8 Gerrard (unsit, capit); R Invine (Oxford University). J Evennett (Confordury). R Stamp (Beaston); Meropreet Kocher (Readington); A Streone (Courtgate); D Methews (Canstructury). T Metithews (Oxford University). Substituties used: A Boyse (Lewed). M
Peem (Florating). S Humphrise (Canteritury). WORLD .SUNIOR CUP (Mitton Keynes). Pool B: Egypt 2 Jepen 4: Pekistan 8 Ger-many 2; England 2 Appentins 5. Standings (other four games): 1 Germany Spits; 2 Pak-stands (2): Spain V Belgium (2): Jepen V Ar-gentins (40): England v Pelostan (50).

SPORTING DIGEST

American football WIT THE THOUGH FUNCTION IN STANDING SERVICE STANDING SERVICE S AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE LASTERN DIVISION CENTRAL DI

land 0; Minnesota 2 Milveutes 1 (70 milnos); Anathem 4 Taxas 1; Sastis 9 Osistand 2 NATIONAL LEAGUE: Moreant 7 Attants 1; Phis-burgh 14 St Louis 2; Houston 8 Chrismati 3; Chicago Cute 11 Philadelphia 3; San Franchico 8 San Dego 5; New York Mess 2 Florida 1; Col-crado 10 Los Angeles 5. Basketball

Motor racing

Football West Bromwich Albion have signed the striker Brian Qualley from Nuneaton Borough even though he had not played in their first team.

played in their first team.
Gary Bollan, the Plangers leit-back, has starfed training with Wolves with a view to e permanent move.

Steve Davis, the Barnsley centre-halt, has broken his right leg again. Davis sustained the injury cluring a training session with the Second Division club, York, where he was on lean.

MALIER LEAGUE SOCCER: Say Jose Clust MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER: Sat Jose Clash 2 Los Angeles Galoxy 2; New England Revolu-tion 3 New York-New Jersey MetroState 2; Tem-ps Bay Multry 2 Washington DC Utd 1 PIFA WORLD UNDER-17 CHAMPIONSHIP [Cairo) Final: Brazil 2 Ghine 1 SUMDAY'S LATE RESULTS: failur League: Udnase 2 Milen 1, Franch League: Montpail-er O Monaco 2, Baján O Matz O Gartoan League: VIS Suggart 3 Bondes Monctengleichach O

GOIf

EUROPEAN ORDER OF MERIT Landing
places: 1 C Monagomente (Sco) \$530527, 2 C
Caste (N N) DMS/62 35 Langer (Ger) PM4855;
4 I Mocaman (Nie) DMS/2725 6 1 Gartio (SP)
CSR222 6 E Bis (SAI S35862); 7 R Goosen
(SAI S35275; 8 I Westwood Engl 2244716;
5 P.I. Johnseson (Swe) EDBS/0: 10 R Kartson
(Swe) ESE/55; 1 I J M Olazyba (SP)
CSR225; 1 I J J M Olazyba (SP)
CSR2606, 12 E Romero (Angl ESS/279, 13 M
James (Engl ESY/56; 14 C Roser (ESR/64);
12 P Henrighto RH 224256; 16 R Auseni (Sco)
12/22701; 7 J Hangenon (Swe) EZY/229, 16
R Olyclon (Engl ESS/75; 10 II Turner E206/99);
20 N Fado (Engl ESS/355.

MODOF FACING
CHAINFOON SPARK PLUG WORLD DRIVER
RANGINGS (top 20): 1 M Schumeches Formula
11 899: 2 A Zenton
(LART) BEZ: 3 I Gordon
(LART) TZL: 5 I Kenauer (Indu
LONe) BEA: 7 A Mena (BTC) BEO: 8 D Jerret
PUSCAR) SEA: 0 P de la Plosa (Formula NI)
DOI: 10 H Cauto Nevies (not) Ligned Siz:
11 IS Meron PUSCAR) SEV: 12 C de Metra (Ind)
Lights) SEZ: 13 I Kendel (Indre And) 577: 16-1

J J Lehto (Grand Touring), S Soper (Grand Touring) 550, 10 M Gugelmin (CART) 540; 19 J Alest (Formula 1) 538; 20 G Lloose (CART) 523. Rugby League STONES Premierable Semi-final: Wigam (20) 22, Shaffield (f) 10 Wigam: Tries Haughton, A Johnson, Robinson, Goeler, Farrel S. Shaffield: Tries Lawless, McAlleter Goeler, Aston, (2894)

Rugby Union

GERBIAN OPEN (Hardord) Third qualifying loaned; Sill (Feb.) of 1 Burphy sit of 54; L Valid-su (Wal) by J Secal (N b) 53; Sillargon (Engl) by J Perry (Engl 53; Sillargon (Engl) D'Connol (Rep In) 53;

Huddersfields Alson Wray won the first WISPA World Tour title of her career in Kuela Lumpur when she beat Senga Mache, the Scottish No 1.2.9, 9-4, 9-2, 9-2 in the final of the YTL Open. YTL OPEN WOMEN'S CHAMPHONSHIP Kusta Lumont Sont finals A Way (Eng) to

K Alleon (Aue) 9-1 9-2 9-1, 5 Macfie (Sco) bt 5 L Laong (Mai) 9-3 10-5 9-3, Final: Wray bt Mac-fie 2-9 9-4 9-2 9-2 Te 2-9 9-4-9-2-9-2.
US WOMEN'S PROFESSIONAL CHAMPI-ONSHIP (Providence, Rhode Island) Semi-finatis: S Whight (Eng) bt N Gamper (SA) 8-4 9-9-7-9-0, F Geneta (Eng) bt 8 Humbr (Eng) 1-9-9-7-9-2-8-9-9-6 Finel: Wright bt Genes 9-3-9-1-9-3

Tennis
Toulouse granic prox Men's TourenaMen's (Praces) First round in Martell (i) bt
of Willerson (65 62 7-6, i) Kleise (62) bt P
redrieson (See) 4-6 53 5-1, Stement Reiny
bt S Grossen (F) 5-3 5-1
ROMARIAN OPEN MEN'S CLAY COURT
TOURNAMENT (Burbaras) First round: A5eresuspul (Sp) bt D Pescertu (Rom) 5-3 1-8 76-4 P Ortse (50) bt A Martin (Sp) 4-7-6 6-4
F Clavet (Sp) bt A Martin (Sp) 4-7-6 6-4
F Clavet (Sp) bt A Martin (Sp) 4-7-6 6-4
F Clavet (Sp) bt A Martin (Sp) 4-7-6 6-4
F Clavet (Sp) bt A Martin (Sp) 4-7-6 6-5
F Clavet (Sp) bt A Martin (Sp) 4-7-6
F Clavet (Sp) bt S 5-8-1
WISMILAK INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S
TOURNAMENT (Surphays Indon) Singles first
round: Martin SeaMentalism (Aus) bt S Onale-Stock
men (Aus) 6-2-5-1, Nemocrobia (Cz Rep) bt
A Gersi (Cz Rep) 6-3 6-1; S Piscows (Fr) bt
A Gersi (Cz Rep) 6-3 6-1; S Piscows (Fr) bt
Notorander (Neth) 6-3-3-0 rs; in Pratt (Aus)
bt A Osza (Po) 6-3-6-1; S Piscows (Fr) bt
A Casca (Po) 6-3-6-1; S Piscows (Fr) bt
A Casca (Po) 5-3-6-1
Leading Wita Toller Rabindres: 1 M Hrigh
(Swt) 88560; 2.2 h Nortors (Cz Rep) 3577. 3
M Seles (US) 3-23, 4 i Magai (Cros) 13-41, 5 L
Desport (US) 323, 6 i M Perce (Fr) 2-400, 9
i Schild (Pom) 2255, 10 C Martinez (Sp) 2256,
11 A Sarretez (Sp) 226; 12 M J Ferrenchez (US)
1902 13 S Graf (60-) USB 14 S i Secul (Fr)
133, 15 B Schulz McCarthy (Noth) 1570, 16
D Pagain (Rom) 1471, 17 S Appeirans (Fel)
137 1 B B Pauls: (Aug) 1331, 18 N Po (US) 1376,
20 Y Basaly indon) 1277.
SUMBAY'S LATE RESULTS. World Group
wellstein round (Marcoric Rates) i Pomore

Football 7.30 unless stated COCA-COLA CUP

Stockport (1) v Similgham (9) (7.45)...

Torquey (7) v Ipewich (1) (7.45)...

Transper (2) v Notes County (0) (7.45)...

Yest Bromerich (7) v Luton (1) (7.45)...

York (1) v Oxford Utd (4) (7.45)... FA CARLING PREMERSHIP Bolton v Tottenham (8.0) Wimbledon v Barnsley (7.45) GN YAUXHALL CONFERENCE Wervil v Kiddermitiester (7.45)

ISTHMIAN LEASUE Premier Division: Ayesbury v Hachin; Chasham v Enfect: Dutwich et Bishops Soctified (7.45); Henden v Heybridge; Kingstenien v Harrow Borough; Dutrof Cary v Purfeet; Sutton Lid v Grawssend & N; Weston & Hesthern v Carsteston (7.45); Yearding v Basnigstoke. First Division: Abingdon Town v Lichnige (7.45); Berichamsted v Whytelesle (7.45); Cherisey v Batham (7.45); Grays v Motesty; Hampton e Bisectay (7.45); Romford v Woldinghum (7.45); Wember v Statese; Worthing v Matienheed Second Division: Sanstend v Canvoy kind. Egitem v Hombern; Martiow v Lejonon; Metmopfilan Police v Weskistone; TBurry v Toom of Sunited. (745): Workington v Instronu.

PRI MARTENS LEAGUE Premiter Divisions:
Beth City v Gloucester City: Cambridge City v
Rothwell, Helsachwen Town v Ginssley Provens:
[745]: Hasting v Createry; Yang's Lyrn v Bu-ton Abloin (745): Terrecorth v Bromsgrove.

Router Stricter of Middlern Reducertor in Control

Sutton Coldfield: Hinddey Ltd v Webech; Ilveston v Bislamali (745); Moor Green v Resnds; Redsigh v Stafford Rangers; Shepshed Dynamo v Bislamali (745); Moor Green v Resnands; Redsigh v Statistical v Redsigh Cub Winwick. Southern Divislam: Beathay v Vesterbovile; Erith & Bahveder v Fleet; Raher Asheist v Darriford. Mangate v Beidsock (745); Newport toW v Havari (745); Weymouth v Inowthodge (745); Weymouth v Inowthodge (745); Weymouth v Inowthodge (745); Weymouth v Inowthodge (745); ARNOTT INSURANCE NOFTHERN LEAGUE First Division: Dunston FB v Bedington Terriers; Tow Leav v Gutebrough.
WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: Chatham v Sharafoy Fathase (745); Febration Invote v Stada Green (745); Henne Bay v Hythe (745); Tubridge Webs v Contribus.
Willet Sussess Country League First Division: Horsinam YMCA v Writehawic Languey Sports v Ma Cask-Portisott v Aurusle (175); Andrill v Pesculativan & Telecomo (745).
UNLSPORT UNITED COUNTRIES LEAGUE

hill v Peacchaven & Tellocombe (745).
UNI.SPORT UNITED COUNTRES LEAGUE
Premier Division: Source v 8t Nects; Cogerhou v Destorough; Ford Sports v Buildingsien
Town: Hobsech v Minises Biscissions; Long
Sucisby v Moorton, Stantond v Boston Town;
Stotloid v Eyrestoury,
JEWSON EASTERN LEAGUE CUP Proliminary
round: Bury Town v Felsonium (745); Holstend
v Marboy (745); Wilston v Nowmarker (745);
Woodorldge v Weston (745). Whoolbridge v Watton (7/45):
SCREWFOX DIRECT LEAGUE Premier Division: Bratici Manor Farm v Chart, Melaham v Backwell, Odd Down v Deportmen; Paulion v Mangotséed, Wastbury v Bristington (7/45):
NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE Premier Division: Ecclestil v Maltby; Glesshoughton v Pickaring; Hetfeld Main v Armat; Hughraf v Armat; Hughraf v Armat; Hughraf v Armat; Shaffeld, North Fariby v Selby; Cesett Town « Shaffeld. MORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE First Di-vision: Atherton LR v Holker Old Boys; Chad-derton v Atherton Colleries; Dervers v Glossop North End; Klasgrove v Healingden; Mossiey v Citheros; Rossendale v Meine Rosst; Sattord v TERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE

- magowen Harriers v Bridgnorth. LEAGUE OF WALES: Barry v Havenbrownest; Connehe Quey v Bangor City; Newtown v Rheyeder.

PONTINS LEAGUE Second Di City v Rotherhern (72). City v Hotherhem (7D).

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION First Di-vision: Crystal Palace v Portemouth (2D) at Plough Lanel: West Hern v Brighton (7A5) for Roots Hail, Southernic.

Baskethall MEN'S EUROCUP Group & Exide London Tox ex y Strikoni Milan (80). Hockey

WORLD JUNIOR CUP (Million Keynest): Egyp v Japan (120); Paidstan v Germeny (20); Eng land v Argentine (40); Cubs v India (60).

SUPERLEAGUE: Paistey Pirates v Ayr Sc Englee (730).

NUMBER

84.5

TODAY'S

The average number of games a football manager has in charge of a team from the bottom division, according to an institute of Economic Affairs survey of 42,624 matches. The topdivision figure is 126.9.

FOOTBALL

After 13 years Anderlecht are punished by Uefa

Anderlecht have finally paid the price for bribing the referee in their Uefa Cup semi-fioal against Nortingham Forest 13 years ago and will be banned from the next European com-

petition they qualify for. European football's governing body, which had previously said it could do oothing because the offence had been committed more than 10 years ago, imposed the ban yesterday.

Uefa has taken the action after admissions by Roger Vanden Stock, the chairman of the Belgian side, that the club, under his father's chairmanship, paid £20,000 to the Spanish referee after their 1984 semi-final.

Vanden Stock said his father had given Guruceta Muro, killed in a car crash in 1987, "a loan" the day after the second leg of the tie, which Anderlecht won 3-0 to wipe out Forest's 2-0 first-leg lead. The English club had scored a disallowed goal in the second leg, which television replays showed was legitimate.

Andertecht are also facing legal action after several former Forest players announced last week that they are to start legal actioo against them.

Manchester United have sent a video to the Football Association which they claim shows Gary Pallister should not have been sent off against Bolton.

The England defender was dismissed by the referee Paul Durkin following a clash with Bolton's Nathan Blake in the first half of Saturday's goalless draw at the Reebok Stadium. It was Pallister's first red card in his eight years with the champ-

waiting for the referee's re- Hodgson, the Blackburn manport. Durkin said: "I write my ager, to have his contract canreport from what I saw during celled by mutual consent. the game and not after watch-

Manchester City cut the asking price for Uwe Rösler to set up a quick sale to Everton. The German striker has refused a new contract at Maine Road and can leave for nothing at the end of the season, prompting the problem was only a virus. drop in his valuation.

Michael Duberry, Chelsea's highly rated young defender, has been told his ankle is not broken, hut he may still face a long layoff if there is ligament damage.

Duberry was taken to hospital for X-rays on his left an-kle which he hurt in an insignificant-looking challenge by Luis Boa Morte during Sunday's defeat by Arsenal.

Frank Sinclair, who dropped his shorts to celebrate scoring Chelsea's opening goal of the season at Coventry on 9 August, was fined £750 and censured by the FA yesterday.

Benfica are ready to appoint Bobby Robson as their w coach, according to reports in the Portuguese press yester-day. The former England manager, currently general manager at Barcelona - is wanted to replace Manuel Jose, who was sacked on Sunday after refusing to resign following a series of poor results.

Bruce Grobbelaar has joined Sheffield Wednesday on a three-month deal after less than a week at Oxford United. The 39-year-old goalkeeper, charged by the FA last week with breaking hetting rules a month after being acquitted of match-fixing, was signed by the Wedoesday manager, David Pleat, because of a groin injury to Kevin Pressman in Saturday's 0-0 draw with Coventry.

Blackburn Rovers have released the Greek international Yorgos Donis after he failed secure a first-team place, just over a year after arriving at Ewood Park on a free transfer. Donis made 22 appearances for Rovers last season, but found his chances limited and has agreed with Roy

The Wimhledon striker Marcus Gayle has been released from hospital after he complaining of chest pains and £1.3m vesterday in an attempt to cramp following his team's 1-0 defeat by Crystal Palace on Saturday. Gayle was back doing "light exercise" yesterday and club officials are hopeful the



Life's a beach: Though he might fancy himself as the new Depardieu, Eric Cantona was keeping his football eye in on the Côte d'Azur on Sunday as he played under royal patronage. While Manchester United sat on top of the Premiership, their former presiding genius was turning out for Prince Albert of Monaco's team in the Pro Beach Soccer Tournament in Monte Carlo

Martin may sue Ryder committee

Miguel Martin, who was dropped from Europe's Ryder Cup team, says he may take legal action over his exclusion. Andy Farrell reports from Valderrama

As the Concorde carrying Tom Kite's American Ryder Cup team landed at Malaga last night Miguel Angel Martin was also arriving at the airport. Martin, who had made the short journey from Madrid, is threatening to sue the Ryder Cup committee after they axed him from the European team and has so far declined an invitation to be at Valderrama.

"I do not know yet if I will be at the Ryder Cup." said the 35-year-old Spaniard who has been unable to play since July. He added: "You will have news to-TROTTOW."

Lawyers for the European Tour consider Martin has no claim for compensation but the man replaced by Jose Maria Olazabal in Seve Ballesteros's team had earlier indicated he would not simply take the £3,500 expenses offered to all the other team members.

Despite these problems Ballesteros had the air yesterday of a man who is ready for the most important week of his golfing life. Far from being neryous about what might happen in the first Ryder Cup ever to be staged on Spanish soil - indeed Continental soil - Europe's captain insisted that he is simply excited about the prospect.

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"When people are nervous it normally means they don't have confidence," said Ballesteros, lifting a glass to show that his hand was not shaking. "This is not the case with me. Everything s under control, and I have tremendous confidence not just in myself, but in the team as well."

On his arrival at Valderrama, the sight of Nick Paldo practising hard was a welcome sight for the European team captain. Paldo has not played for two weeks and travelled ahead of the rest of the team, who flew in from London this afternoon.

Ballesteros, who in handing a wild card to Faldo, praised him as the man whom he would bet his life on playing the last hole, said: "Nick has shown dedication over many years, and it's nice to see he is still so keen."

The unusual world of Jesper

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD



 Insult a fellow's appearance (7) 25 Boot-licker not about to be 8
Try to find catch when backing disarmament policy (4-26 Learn about New Testament 13

Advanced as Nepal col-lapsed; this helps movement 27 10 Crime for which cleric is beheaded (5) 11 Milk producer's awfully rude

about head of Dairy (5) 2 12 American bird has baby on a river (9) 14 They can produce bags of smartness (7.7)

Gets a changed point which 4 actor should respond to (5.9) Jack, it could be suggested, 5 is not even-handed? (3-3.3) Magistrate is about at the 6 cnd of the day (5)

European in the back of 15 Put data into computer, It is the hoat is from the orient (7) DOWN

One providing money to se- 18 cure old sink (7) Work for Sponish and get on 19 the same wavelength, which A model of right thinking?

Some quite extraordinary 25 support for golfers (3)

Good Queen eats fish as well

Nobody bolds ourses to be trash (8)
Possibly blaming peer for making attack ineffective possibly a serious complaint

A graduate joining coppers? 16 Use opals corruptly to get You can count on it (6) support (8) support (8)
There's some grand irony calling this a kind of dog (7)
Former con changed what it

20 Lower clergyman rounds up those people commonly (6)

22 Fat old bees flying around (5) 25 Game's new unit of scoring

RUGBY UNION

England take shape as Woodward cuts deep

Clive Woodward took an intriguing first step towards stamping his personality on England's national squad yesterday by naming an élite party for tomorrow's training run at Bisham Abbey. Chris Hewett looks at the reasoning behind the new coach's selections.

Now that is what you call a cull. Clive Woodward took a treefeller's axe to England's ludicrously over-populated interim party yesterday, chopping the vast majority of the 77-strong swathe of humanity nominated by Don Rutherford, the Rugby Football Union's technical director, and leaving himself a choice band of 23 players with which to work. At this rate, he will soon be in a position to give his his entire squad a lift to training.

Sensibly enough, Woodward has used his country's strong and . generally successful Lions contingent as a foundation stone all but four of his select highfliers were in South Africa during the summer. Indeed, only three English Lions have not ened by the experience. Cermade the list: Nigel Redman, who ironically produced a world-class display before Woodward's very eyes in last Saturday's Bath-Brive match; Tony Underwood, the injury-prone Newcastle wing, and Tony Diprose, the Saracens captain.

"emerging players", which in- are all on the outside looking in cludes one or two comparative So too is Andy Gomarsall, who old-stagers who seem to have been emerging for years. John Mallett, Garath Archer and Martin Corry have, like Diprose, already been capped but the other seven represent the very best of England's untried, untested and uninhibited talent.

Woodward said yesterday that, to all intents and purposes, Phil de Glanville could still consider himself England captain and would be in charge of élite list. With de Glanville proceedings tamorrow. However, he added a significant rider by saying: "I will he naming the captain simultaneously with the team for the first Test of the season against Australia in November and that side will be picked only on form. Everybody will need to show me and my fellow selectors that they are good enough to occupy their positions during these intervening weeks."

At least the new coach is staying true to his long-held philosophy that small is beautiful when it comes to squad size. Woodward believes in exclusivity, in making the inner cirde so difficult to break into that, when players finally find the key to the donr, they arrive hardtainly, it will now take a monumental effort for some of Eogland's best-known performers to claw their way back Underwood may well feature

sponer rather than later, but Redman, Ben Clarke, Victor Diprose has been named in Ubogu, Darren Garforth, Chris an 11-strong subsidiary party of Sheasby and Jon Sleightholme

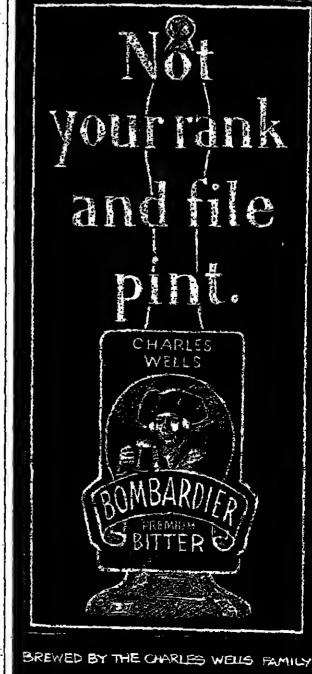
started last season as England's first-choice scrum-half. The fall from grace can be steep and rapid, as the 23-year-old Wasp is discovering. Will Greeowood, such an

outstanding success with the Lions until his tour was cut-short by a life-threatening head injury during the match with Free State in Bloemfontein, is the only uncapped player on the back to something like his best and Jeremy Guscott nearing full fitness, the midfield selection for the Wallaby Test looks like a straightforward two from three.

The "emerging" list includes two youngsters widely expected challenge for Test places before the season is out: Matt Perry, the Bath ntility back, and Will Green, the Wasps prop. But the dark horse may turn out to be Andy Long, the Bath and England Under-21 front-rower rated by many good judges as the most talented hooker to emerge in this country in a generation. in this country in a generation.

Bigland Blite Souads Published: T Stimpson (Newcaste). Wings: N Beet (Northampton), A Adebaye (Beth), J Bentley (Newcaste), Centres: J Guscott (Bath), W Greenwood (Laicessur), P De Glenville (Bath), Stind-offs: P Grayson (Northampton), A King (Massel, M Catt (Beht), Servitation), A King (Massel, M Catt (Beht), Servitation), A King (Massel), J Leonard (Hartschir), Hooters: M Regam (Beth), P Greening (Gaucaster), Lockes: M Johnson (Lacester), S Shaw (Massel, Back rowr I Dalagife (Massel, R Hill (Stracers), T Rocher (Northampton), N Beck (Leicester), EMERGING PLAYERS: T Behm (Sae), M Worstey (Efsto), M Green (Massel), M Corry (Laicester), G Arcter (Newcaste), J Hallett (Bath), J Worstey (Efsto), W Green (Massel), M Corry (Laicester), A Diprose (Sarcocres), J Hallett (Bath), J Worstey (Edster), M Perry (Bath), J Worstey (Bath), J Wespe), M Perry (Bath), J Wespe, J W Per

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